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24 PAGES

## Day One: Done!



On the way home, WHS students complete their first day.

(photo: BruceHilliard.com)

Judy O'Connell

## Former selectman returns to board following election

By CASEY STEVENSON  
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — On Sept. 2, 2021, Wilmington voters cast their ballots to decide who would replace Selectwoman Jomarie O'Mahoney, who resigned last June from the Board of Selectmen.

O'Connell won with 80 percent of the votes, or 588 votes, an astounding majority.

Nelson earned himself 17.6 percent of the votes, or 129 of the 735 votes. There were 18 write-ins, as well, or 2.4 percent of the votes.

Voting lasted from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m., and voters went to their usual precinct

locations.

Precincts one and two voted at the Boutwell School, located on 17 Boutwell St.

Precincts three and four voted at the Wildwood School, which is located at 182 Wildwood St.

Precincts five and six voted at the Town Hall, which is on 121 Glen Road.

The two candidates were former Selectwoman Judy O'Connell, and Mark Nelson, both Wilmington residents.

O'Connell, a current Wilmington realtor, was recently seen on WCTV's Candidate Conversation, hosted by Rob Peterson. There she talked about her platform, her goals, and

Old friends, election volunteer Mary Kie-singer and Marilyn Cox, meet at the Wilmington Town Hall to vote in the special election.

(photo: BruceHilliard.com)



her background. She was previously on the Board of Selectmen and other Wilmington committees, is a WHS alumni, a Merri-

mack College alumni and two-time athlete.

She wants to introduce technological communications such as a text when

schools are closed or when a bill is due. She also wants to push forward on important projects such as the new Senior Center

and Town Hall building, and supports a renewal in contract for current Town Manager, Jeff Hall.

JUDY | PAGE A12W

## Massachusetts Antique

### Fire Apparatus Association

## MAFAA returns to Shriners in Wilmington

By HEATHER BURNS  
News Correspondent

After over a year hiatus due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Association is happy to announce the return of the 44th annual Antique Fire Apparatus Parade and Show to Wilmington on

Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021.

The Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Association (MAFAA) was founded in 1977 as a local chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motorized Fire Apparatus in America (SPAAMFAA).

MAFAA | PAGE A12W

## Woburn City Council OKs land takings for New Boston Street bridge project near Wilmington line

By PATRICK BLAIS

WOBURN — With the future of the New Boston Street bridge project at stake, it took the City Council just minutes this

BRIDGE | PAGE A12W

## It's OK to (carefully) feed the birds

By ROSALYN IMPINK  
News Correspondent

While backyard bird-watching may be a meditative pastime for many, Massachusetts residents are urged to take precautions when filling their bird feeders to help stop the spread of a mysterious communicable disease killing birds across the Eastern seaboard.

According to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, an increased number of reports of dead birds in the mid-Atlantic and mid-west regions affected by an unknown illness has prompted investigation by wildlife officials in several states over the last several months.

At the time of press, officials have ruled out avian influenza, West Nile virus, Newcastle disease, heavy metals, and common pesticides and herbicides as causes of illness. Additionally, Mass Wildlife reports no related health issues in humans, livestock, poultry,

or pets.

The "large scale bird mortality events" have been documented in at least 10 states since May 2021, including New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. The disease has impacted many common species, including robins, jays, starlings, and grackles. Symptoms include neurological issues (such as disorientation or stumbling) and conjunctivitis (crusty or swollen eyes).

While MassWildlife was clear in a recent memo that the department does not believe that bird feeders and bird baths themselves are contributing to the spread of illness, such locations encourage animals to congregate. Nonetheless, the department encourages residents to "disinfect these surfaces on at least a weekly basis... clean with soap and water then disinfect with a 10 percent bleach solution, rinse with clean water, and allow to air-dry."

If residents observe

dead or sick birds in the area of feeders, Mass Wildlife encourages the cleaning of feeders and removal for at least two weeks. An added benefit, says the department, is a reduction in attractive food sources for rodents and bears.

As bears search for high calorie treats (such as bird seed and corn) to prepare for winter hibernation, they often follow smells into suburban areas and then return year after year, creating problems not only for the bears but for humans as well.

Avid bird lovers need not despair over the loss of wildlife in their backyards. MassWildlife suggests that avian enthusiasts seek alternative methods to attract feathered friends, such as "planting native plants, shrubs, or trees, installing water features, and erecting bird houses" to create sheltered areas for nesting and roosting.

Leaving small brush piles and small dead tree

stumps also create areas for birds to live. Native vegetation can help attract a wider range of bird species — try planting cherries or blueberries to give visiting friends a snack.

Additionally, MassWildlife says that "native plants support a much higher diversity and number of invertebrates than non-native plants. This is especially true with caterpillars, which are the preferred food for young songbirds."

State wildlife officials will continue to monitor bird deaths in the area. Birds should not be handled directly; if dead birds must be moved, use a trash bag and gloves and keep other wildlife and pets away.

Residents who spot symptomatic birds or birds who have died of unknown causes are encouraged to email [mass.wildlife@mass.gov](mailto:mass.wildlife@mass.gov) with photos of the bird or file a report at [www.mass.gov/forms/report-observations-of-dead-birds](http://www.mass.gov/forms/report-observations-of-dead-birds).

To reach

The Town Crier

Call: 978-658-2346

Town Crier



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## Wilmington Library News:

# Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, Sept. 18

**Town-Wide Yard Sale**  
A bargain hunter's dream! Pick up a map from the library, or look for signs around town on Sept. 18 to shop the Town Wide Yard Sale. Maps of yard sale locations will be available at the library and at Market Basket starting Wednesday, Sept. 15.

**National Library Card Sign-up Month**  
To celebrate National Library Card Sign-up Month AND our 150th anniversary, we will be giving out limited edition cards to the first 150 people who apply for a library card in September. Plus, get a sign-up bonus prize! If you have a friend or family member who doesn't have a card of their own, this is the time to change that! Remember, there is no minimum age to apply.

**Adult Programs**  
**VIRTUAL**  
**Cooking Demonstration with Chef Bill**  
Thursday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m.  
Chef Bill will offer a virtual demonstration of his Chicken Marsala recipe, which he keeps flavorful and light with an unconventional seasonal ingredient (pumpkin!). He will also teach us to prepare two sides featuring fall vegetables: roasted red potatoes with rosemary and roasted broccoli.

**INDOOR Tech Help**  
Tuesday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m.  
Make an appointment with Brad for an hour long session on any tech question you have. If you need help navigating the web, are looking for a new computer, or are confused by your new iPhone, this service will be helpful to you!

**INDOOR Drop-In Tech Help**  
Tuesday, Sept. 14, 1-2 p.m.  
Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2-3 p.m.  
Meet with Eric or Brad for help with a short, 15-minute drop-in question. Sessions are first come, first served.

**VIRTUAL**  
**How to: Make Your Old Home Energy Efficient**  
Tuesday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.  
Carissa Demore, Team Leader for Preservation Services at Historic New England, will present a historic preservation perspective on insulation, air sealing, mechanical upgrades and other energy retrofit opportunities in existing homes.

**OUTDOOR Current Affairs Discussion Group Open House**  
Wednesday, Sept. 15, 7 p.m.  
Find out all about the library's Current Affairs Group at this outdoor open house, which will be held in the Peggy Kane Reading Garden located

behind the library. Meet the members and enjoy light refreshments. This group is for all who would like to broaden their knowledge of current national and international events. Led by facilitator Dan Hall.

**VIRTUAL Lunchtime Lecture: Jacob Lawrence's Struggle Series**  
Thursday, Sept. 16, 12 p.m.  
Erica Harper, from the Phillips Collection in DC, returns! Grab your lunch, log onto Zoom, and learn about another painting series from one of the biggest artists to come out of the Harlem Renaissance.

**INDOOR The Multifaceted Guitarist**  
Thursday, Sept. 16, 2:30 p.m.  
Classical guitarist John Muratore will present a program that celebrates the diversity of styles and influences to be discovered within the classical guitar repertoire. John has performed as a concert soloist throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe and Russia. Don't miss this afternoon of beautiful music.

**INDOOR Novel Ideas Book Group**  
Thursday, Sept. 16, 7 p.m.  
Enjoy reading fiction? Join the library's fiction book group led by Adult

Services Librarian Erin Driscoll. Please stop by the library to pick up a copy of the featured book, *The Girl with the Louding Voice* by Abi Dare.

**INDOOR Needleworkers**  
Friday, Sept. 17, 10 a.m.  
This is a social group for those who do any kind of needle craft. Bring your knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. and enjoy a little conversation and camaraderie — drop in. Everyone welcome!

**VIRTUAL Poetry Circle**  
Saturday, Sept. 18, 9:15 a.m.  
Do you enjoy writing poetry? Want input on your work? If so, this group is for you. When registering, please provide your email address so you can receive an agenda and any prep materials in advance. Led by local writing enthusiast, Barbara Alebras.

**Town Wide Yard Sale**  
Saturday, Sept. 18, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Pick up a map of seller locations starting September 15 from the library or Market Basket for the best buyer experience. Lots of clothes, books, toys, tools, and household goods will be available at homes across town for a bargain.

**Youth Programs**  
Masks are required for

children ages 2 to 12 while visiting the Children's Room.

**INDOOR Family Craft Night: Fairy Houses**  
Wednesday, Sept. 15, 6:30 p.m.  
Round up the whole family to create together or create at the same time! This month, come create your very own fairy house! Grades K+

**OUTDOOR Tie Dye: Socks & Scrunchies**  
Friday, Sept. 17, 2:45 & 3:45 p.m.  
Time for another tie dye event! This year, tie dye a pair of socks or a scrunchie! Register to secure your spot for one of our favorite events. All Ages

**VIRTUAL D&D**  
Saturday, Sept. 18, 3 p.m.  
Interested in finding out more about this fantasy tabletop role-playing game, or looking for a group to play with? Join DM Michaela for a virtual campaign via Zoom. Grades 6-8

**A note about storytimes:**  
All storytimes take place in the back of the library, next to the Peggy Kane Reading Garden. In the event of inclement weather, or temperatures under 55° or above 85°, storytime will move INDOORS.

**OUTDOOR Drop-In Storytime**

Friday, Sept. 17, 10 a.m.  
This storytime includes books, rhymes, music and movement. No registration required. Ages 2+

**OUTDOOR Drop-In Baby Time**  
Saturday, Sept. 25, 9:30 a.m.  
This storytime includes books, rhymes, music and movement. No registration required. Ages 0-2

**OUTDOOR Drop-In Preschool Storytime**  
Saturday, Sept. 25, 10:30 a.m.  
This storytime includes books, rhymes, music and movement. No registration required. Ages 2+

**WML In-Person Programming**  
Registration is required for most in-person programs. If a program is outdoors and inclement weather is forecast, the program may be held virtually on Zoom or inside the library. Please check out website on the day of the program to confirm location.

**WML Virtual Programming**  
The library continues to offer a variety of virtual events. Please note that registration is required in order to receive the Zoom link. Go to [wilmingtonlibrary.org](http://wilmingtonlibrary.org) to register or call 978-658-2967.

## Reading Coop Bank's Sasha DiPietro promoted to mortgage loan officer

READING — Reading Cooperative Bank (RCB) is pleased to announce that Sasha DiPietro has been promoted to the position of Mortgage Loan Officer. DiPietro has been at RCB since 2009. She worked in several of the branches where she assisted customers as a teller and a Banking Specialist II.

In 2015, DiPietro joined the Residential Lending Team as a loan opener. In 2018, she was promoted to

loan processor, a role she held until becoming a loan officer. DiPietro will report to Veronica Russo, VP, Residential and Consumer Lending.

"Sasha has been an incredible member of the mortgage lending team for a number of years," said Russo. "Her experience and commitment to excellent customer service makes her the perfect fit for this role, and I look forward to seeing her thrive as an MLO."

"I'm so happy to have been given this opportunity," DiPietro explained. "Becoming a loan officer feels like the culmination of my many years in Residential Lending. I've learned so much from my peers and am grateful for the knowledge that's been passed down to me. I'm excited to do my part in serving the customers in our market by helping make their dreams of becoming homeowners a reality."

**About Reading Cooperative Bank:**  
Reading Cooperative Bank is a depositor owned co-operative founded in 1886. This community-centric North Shore financial service provider has branches in Reading, Wilmington, North Reading, Andover, and Burlington. They also operate teaching branches at Northeast Metro Tech in Wakefield (open to the public) and at Reading Memorial High School (students and staff only), as well as an online branch at [www.readingcoop.com](http://www.readingcoop.com).

Member FDIC | Member DIF | Equal Housing Lender

## Rally Day at WUMC

WILMINGTON — Are you looking for a new community where you can explore your relationship with God? Wilmington United Methodist Church invites you to come join us on Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021 for their annual Rally Day. They welcome, and wel-

come back, all: longtime members, newest members, and those looking for a new home to new your faith. Discover your talents and gifts that help make a church whole. Join them for worship on Sunday, Sept. 12 at 10 a.m. and stay afterwards for a pie social.

All are welcome!  
Wilmington United Methodist Church • 87 Church Street, Wilmington, MA 01887 | Phone 978.658.4519  
On the web: <https://wilmingtonumc.org/>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Wilmington-United-Methodist-Church-140418589334928>

## Flea Market on the town common in Wilmington

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Sons & Daughters of Italy & Wildcat Bands presents a FLEA MARKET on Saturday, Sept. 18 from 8 a.m. to 3

p.m. at the Town Common Lot.  
Rent a Space for \$20 to sell NEW or USED ITEMS.  
To reserve a spot or for more info, contact John

Romano: [jromano45@gmail.com](mailto:jromano45@gmail.com) or call (617) 750-9749.  
The event features a BBQ, music and a balloon artist.

### Advertisement It's Your Money by Todd Brisbois



## NEW TAX LAWS — PART I —

On December 27, 2020, Congress passed the 5,593-page Consolidated Appropriations Act. The "Act" includes several provisions and extensions of previously expiring provisions relevant to individual taxpayers:

### Medical Expense Deduction Floor

The Act returns the medical expense deduction floor to 7.5% of adjusted gross income (AGI). The Affordable Care Act raised the threshold to 10% of AGI so that, for 2013 through 2017, individuals under age 65 could claim an itemized deduction for unreimbursed medical expenses only to the extent that those expenses exceeded 10% of AGI, while the threshold remained 7.5% of AGI for individuals age 65 and older. The threshold was scheduled to increase to and remain at 10% for all taxpayers, but Congress temporarily restored the 7.5% threshold for everyone first for 2017 and 2018, then for 2019 and 2020, before making the change permanent. The change applies to tax years beginning after December 31, 2020.

### Charitable Contribution Deduction

The Act extends the \$300 above-the-line charitable contribution deduction for qualified contributions made by non-itemizers. It also extends the temporary charitable contribution limit provided in the CARES Act. The limitation for deductible cash contributions to a public charity increases from 60% to 100% for 2020 and 2021.

### Transition from Tuition Deduction to Increased Income Limit on Lifetime Learning Credit

The Act repeals the deduction for qualified tuition and related expenses and increases the income limitations on the Lifetime Learning Credit. The phaseout of the Credit will begin at modified adjusted gross income of \$80,000 (\$160,000 for joint returns). These amounts will not be adjusted for inflation. This change applies to tax years beginning January 1, 2020.

Presented as a service to the community by

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The boys are back!

The boys of summer are back. WHS's first day of 2021. (photo: BruceHilliard.com)

## News and notes from WCTV

Hello friends and neighbors! Here's what's going on at WCTV!

Do you have something to say? Want your voice to be heard?

If you've got a burning desire to share your thoughts with our community and beyond, WCTV can help! Have you considered launching your own Podcast? If you have been thinking about it, now is the time to act! WCTV has a dedicated, fully equipped podcast studio AND we will train you and help you get started. All that's required from you is to become a WCTV member (membership is free to Wilmington residents and those who work in Wilmington or are affiliated with a Wilmington organization) and to

commit to a few hours of training for broadcasting and editing. If you are interested or need more information, please contact Lisa Kapala at: [lisa@wctv.org](mailto:lisa@wctv.org) to get started!

### Volunteers needed:

WCTV is seeking volunteers for video coverage of town meetings. Wilmington Community Television broadcasts live coverage of Wilmington's School Committee, Board of Selectmen, Board of Appeals, and annual Town Meeting. If you are interested in volunteering to help with these meetings or to cover a meeting that is not currently being broadcast please reach out to [Lisa@WCTV.org](mailto:Lisa@WCTV.org) to become a member and receive your free training. Access to WCTV resources (cam-

eras/microphones/editing bays/training) is FREE to all Wilmington residents and local organizations to create content to be aired on WCTV. Be the change in your community — let your voice be heard!

**Saturday, Sept. 11, 9 a.m. - noon**  
**WCTV Saturday Youth Program**  
There's still time for you to sign up your child for WCTV's Saturday Youth Program!  
If you'd like more information about this wonderful on-going youth program, please email Youth Director, Marty McHugh at: [Marty@wctv.org](mailto:Marty@wctv.org) to register!  
**Meetings covered by WCTV:**  
Monday, Sept. 13, 7 p.m.

Selectmen 7 p.m.  
View on: Verizon channel 38, Comcast channel 22 and  
Verizon channel 37, Comcast channel 9.

### Follow us:

Twitter: WCTV (@Wilmington\_TV) / Twitter  
Facebook: WCTV: Wilmington Community Television  
Instagram: Wilmington WCTV is located at: 10 Waltham Street, Wilmington  
Office Hours by Appointment: (978) 657-4066  
Questions about WCTV? Contact [info@wctv.org](mailto:info@wctv.org)  
WCTV Channels: Public Channel: Verizon 37, Comcast 9  
Meetings & Government: Verizon 38, Comcast 22  
Access: Verizon 39, Comcast 99



## History: Traveled with Hancock

## Sheldon's father was at Second Continental Congress

By LARZ F. NEILSON

Asa Sheldon probably never had a "What did you do in the war, dad?" conversation with his father. Jeremiah Sheldon lived in Danvers and was 18 when the American Revolution began. He became a Minuteman. Then in 1778, the town doctor asked him to accompany him to Pennsylvania for the Second Continental Congress.

There may or may not have been stories of bold military action that Jeremiah could have told his sons. There also could have been stories of traveling with the likes of John Hancock, Samuel Adams and Dr. Samuel Holten.

In his autobiography, Wilmington Farmer, Asa Sheldon (1788-1870) mentioned that his father had been a clerk for "Judge Houghton" in Congress. He also wrote that his father was quite good-natured, but gave no background.

Except there was no Judge Houghton. Asa probably did not know much about the judge or what his father did. Jeremiah Sheldon served for seven years, 1778-1785, as a aide to Dr. Samuel Holten, a member of the Second Continental Congress. Jeremiah was

21 and a military veteran when he was hired by Dr. Holten.

In a biography of Holten, Harriet S. Tapley tells of the doctor setting off in 1778 for a month-long journey to York, Pennsylvania in the company of John Hancock. Tapley wrote, imagining the scene at Dr. Sheldon's send-off from his home in Danvers: "Here too was Jeremiah Sheldon, Dr. Holten's personal servant, who accompanied him on his journey."

Their mission was to assist in the framing of the Articles of Confederation of the United States. The Declaration of Independence, of course, had been signed two years earlier. The Articles were voted in November 1777, but it was not until 1781 that the last ratification occurred. They then served as the operating agreement among the states until the adoption of the Constitution in 1789.

"John Hancock was Dr. Holten's traveling companion on this first trip," Tapley wrote. "Jerry Sheldon rode on horseback, and as the doctor's 'waiter' received 20 pounds per month in Massachusetts currency."

There were many such trips for Sheldon, between

Danvers and Philadelphia.

Dr. Holten was a physician, first in Gloucester, then for several years in Danvers. In 1768, he was elected to the state legislature, where he became a strong advocate of the colonies separating from Great Britain. 10 years later, he became a delegate to the Second Continental Congress.

Sheldon wrote to Holten on June 28, 1780, thanking him for everything he has done for him. He expressed regret that he did not become a master of his field of learning, but that with Holten's assistance, he would distinguish himself. He wrote that he was distressed at leaving Holten when he was unwell.

He described his troubled 21-day wagon trip to Danvers. His service with Dr. Holten, though, continued until 1785.

Dr. Holten then served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1793 to 1795, after which he became a judge.

In 1781, he married Elizabeth Goodell, a descendant of Gen. Israel Putnam, who had designed the earthen fortifications on Breed's Hill for the Battle of Bunker Hill in June 1775. Putnam was a

Danvers native.

Their firstborn was named Elbridge Gerry Sheldon, named for another member of the Massachusetts delegation to the Continental Congress, who later became the fifth vice president of the United States. The term 'gerrymandering' came from his name after he, as governor, signed a redistricting bill. A newspaper cartoon showed the district in Essex County looking like a salamander.

A story in the *Boston Globe* from 1885 tells of a reporter's visit in North Reading with a woman who would soon be 102. Mrs. Lucinda Shelden Howard was born in Danvers in the year the Revolutionary War closed, 1783. She was Jeremiah and Elizabeth's second child, five years older than her brother Asa Sheldon.

Mrs. Howard is quoted in the article, saying, "My father went to Congress as clerk for Judge Holten." That clue led to everything in this story.

The *Globe* story goes through several memorable events in her lifetime, like the death of George Washington, the invention of the steamboat, and seeing the first locomotive on

the Lowell railroad. She didn't specify if that had been the Salem and Lowell Railroad, near her home in North Reading, or perhaps the Boston and Lowell, which ran through Wilmington and started earlier than the S&L.

Jeremiah and Elizabeth's third child was Samuel Houghton Sheldon, named for the doctor. He also settled in North Reading. Evidently there was a long confusion about Dr. Holten's last name. In earlier times, names sometimes had varied spellings.

Asa Goodell Sheldon was fourth, born in 1788. He was named for his maternal grandfather.

There were three more daughters, Harriet, 1791, Betsy, 1795 and Sophia, 1801. A fourth son, Jeremiah, Jr. was born in 1798.

On April 14, 1797, Jeremiah let Asa to a neighboring farm as an indentured worker, the first of many such arrangements.

10 years later, Asa came to Wilmington, to the Pearson tavern. In 1815, he married Clarissa Eames, daughter of Ens. Nathan Eames and Susanna Harnden. The couple lived first in the Cadwallader Ford house and eventually bought a house on Woburn Street.

Jeremiah Sheldon died in 1803. His widow outlived him by 50 years. Elizabeth Goodell Sheldon lived with her son Asa for some 25 years. She died in Wilmington in 1853 at age 94.

Asa Sheldon's autobiography, Wilmington Farmer, was republished in 1988 under the title Yankee Drover by University Press of New England. ISBN 0-87451-439-8.

Perhaps, a more appropriate title would have been Wilmington Contractor. In a career that spanned 50 years, Asa Sheldon became one of the most prominent contractors of the early 19th century. He built railroads and many bridges.

His most famous project was cutting down Boston's Pemberton Hill in 1835. He hired men with ox carts, and the digging was all done by hand. The gravel was then dumped in the Mill Pond. That area became Nashua Street and the tracks leading to North Station.

With so many oxen working, Sheldon built a blacksmith shop and hired two blacksmiths to keep them shod. When the job was completed, he moved the shop to Wilmington.

## Tewksbury-Wilmington Lodge of Elks announce scholarship opportunity

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks recently announced that applications are now being accepted for the (MVS) Most Valuable Student Scholarship for 2022.

The MVS Scholarship contest is open to any high school senior who is a United States citizen.

The Elks National Foundation will award a total of 500 four-year scholarships ranging from \$4,000 to \$50,000, totaling \$2,440,000. Other smaller awards may be given at the local, district and state levels.

Winners of a scholarship at the national level will be announced in late March 2022.

Eligibility criteria are:

- Current high school seniors, or the equivalent, who are citizens of the United States are eligible to apply.

- Applicant's do NOT need to be related to a member of the Elks.

- High school graduates are not eligible to apply.

Applicants must be citizens of the U.S. on the date their applications are submitted; permanent

legal resident status does not qualify.

Student applicants must apply on line by Nov. 15, 2021.

For more information or to apply, visit, [elks.org/scholars/scholarships/mvs.cfm](https://elks.org/scholars/scholarships/mvs.cfm).

The Tewksbury-Wilmington Lodge# 2022 coordinator is Maureen Kear.

Parents or guardians with questions may contact the lodge secretary, George Kear, at the lodge number, 978-657-6333 and press option 3.

## Tewksbury-Wilmington Lodge of Elks announce Legacy Award Scholarship

Tewksbury-Wilmington Lodge of Elks #2070 announces 2022 Legacy Award Scholarship Opportunity.

The 2022 contest and application will open on Sept. 1, 2021.

The deadline for 2022 applications is Feb. 7, 2022.

Eligibility criteria are:

- For the 2022 contest, any child or grandchild (or step-child, step-grandchild, or legal ward) of a living Elk who joined the order on or before April 1, 2019, is eligible to apply.

The Elk must also be a paid-up member through March 31, 2022. Great-grandchildren are not eligible.

- The applicant must be a high school senior.

- The applicant must apply online only. The 2022 Legacy Awards application deadline is Feb. 7, 2022.

- If the applicant's parent and grandparent are both Elk members, the applicant must apply through the parent's Elk Lodge.

- They have waived the standardized test requirement for the 2022 Legacy contest. You do not need to submit ACT and/or SAT scores.

- Students may apply for more than one ENF scholarship; however, they may win only one. In cases where the student wins more than one, they will award the scholarship with the greater value. Students can accept local and state

scholarships, which are separate from the awards at the national level.

- Legacy Awards may only be applied to accredited US American schools, colleges or universities. (note: Applicants from Guam, Panama, Puerto Rico and the Philippines may apply Legacy Awards toward schools, colleges or universities in their respective homes.)

- If you are selected as a 2022 Legacy Award recipient, you will be required to perform service once a year with an Elks Lodge, during the four years you are receiving the scholarship.

Eligible students should apply in the following manner:

- Go to [Elks.org/scholarships](https://elks.org/scholarships). Find the Legacy Award pulldown for more information and the application. The application must be filled out completely ONLINE. The deadline is Feb. 7, 2022.
- The Elks sponsor's

membership will be verified through the BPOE Grand Lodge Headquarters.

- When the student registers to complete the online application, both the applicant and Lodge Secretary will be notified by email.

- If you have questions about your online Legacy Awards application, contact the ENF Scholarship Office via email at [scholarship@elks.org](mailto:scholarship@elks.org). There is also a Legacy Awards FAQ page.

- Upon receipt of the application, the applicant will receive a notification that the application was received. Winners will be announced in late April 2022.

The Tewksbury-Wilmington Lodge of Elks scholarship is Maureen Kear. If needed to reach her, she can be notified of your request through the Lodge Secretary, George Kear, at the lodge number, 978-657-6333 and press option 3.

## ALL INCLUSIVE OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

Large second-floor office space in the heart of Wilmington with easy access to The Commuter Rail and minutes from all major highways. This space would be ideal for a lawyer or a tax professional.



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## Tewksbury Community Market to host nearly 40 vendors

TEWKSBURY — The Tewksbury Community Market is open at Livingston Street Park (288 Livingston St.), behind the Recreation Center, on Thursday, Sept. 16, 2021, from 3 to 7 p.m.

The Sept. 16 market will feature nearly 40 vendors, including:

## FARMS &amp; MORE

- Gaouette Farm (fresh fruits & veggies)
- Green Hollow Orchard (eggs, fresh veggies, candles)
- Pleasant Valley Gardens Farm (fresh veggies)
- Tewksbury Public Library's Community Garden (fresh veggies)

## DINNER

## FOOD TRUCKS

- Birds Nest Italian Street Food (sliders, deep fried manicotti, garlic parmesan french fries, crispy eggplant fries, mozzarella sticks, fried ravioli)
- Wanderlust Food Truck (ribs, corn, chorizo, cheesy focaccia, beet humus)

## DESSERT

## FOOD TRUCKS

- Cookie Monstah (ice cream cookie sandwiches, cookies)
- Cupcake City (cupcakes)
- Kona Ice (shaved ice)
- Whoopie Wagon (whoopie pies, cookies)

## SWEETS

- Drive-By Pies (pies)
- Fudge 'n Stuff (fudge, candied nuts, salted & roasted cashews)
- Purple Carrot Bread Co. (breads, pastries)
- Sweet Lydias (smores, marshmallow, candy bars)

## CAN'T MISS

## FOOD VENDORS

- Bittersweet Herb Farm

(sauces, seasonings, oils, jams, balsamic vinegar)

- Craic Sauce (hot sauces)

- Grateful Tastes (artisan spreads)

- Joyberry Farms (mushrooms)

- Kiss The Cook (mac & cheese)

- Mill City Cheesemongers (cheeses)

- Naturel Juicing (cold-pressed juices)

- Polish Prince Pierogi (pierogi)

- Seafood Express (seafood)

- Tewksbury Honey (honey)

- Tiny Arms Coffee (coffee)

## ARTISANS,

## CRAFTERS &amp; MORE

- Amy's She Shed Creations (signs, glassware, wreaths, assortment of handmade items)

- Bracelets By Melissa (bracelets)

- From Sea To You (sea glass pictures & art)

- KC Styles Accessories (handmade jewelry, scarves, hair accessories)

- MSM Crafts (all occasion cards & other paper-craft items)

- My Scrubs Don't Suck (sugar scrubs)

- National Sharpening (mobile sharpening service for knives, scissors & garden tools)

- Scents Delivered (goat milk soap, essential oils, fragrance oils, sugar scrubs)

- Slippery Soap Company (goat milk soaps, specialty soaps, moisturizers, deodorant)

- Straingley Handmade (wreaths, string art, handmade jewelry, greeting cards, customized glass & mugs, vinyl decals)

- Tewksbury Florist & Greenery (flowers, plants)

- Wholesome Style (tote

bags made from t-shirts, wood signs, kitchen towels)

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

- Friends of the Tewksbury Public Library (community cookbooks)

- Lemonade Stand To Benefit The MSPCA

- Tewksbury Memorial High School Robotics Club

## KIDS ACTIVITIES

- Get Your Photo Taken With The Scooby Doo Mystery Van courtesy of Escapology

Most vendors accept both cash and credit. Pleasant Valley Gardens Farm also accepts WIC, SNAP, EBT and all state and federal farmers market coupons.

Visit the Tewksbury Community Market's website at [www.tewksbury-market.com](https://www.tewksbury-market.com) to learn more. Follow the Tewksbury Community Market's Facebook (@TewksburyMarket), Twitter (@TewksburyMarket), and Instagram (@TewksburyCommunityMarket) for additional market updates throughout the season.

The Tewksbury Community Market is organized through the Tewksbury Public Library, in cooperation with several town departments, including the Community Development Department, Health Department and Town Manager's Office. Have a question about the market? Contact Community Outreach Librarian Robert Hayes at 978-640-4490 x 205 or [rhayes@tewksbury-pl.org](mailto:rhayes@tewksbury-pl.org) and Community Development Administrative Assistant Alex Lowder at 978-640-4370 x 248 or [alowder@tewksbury-ma.gov](mailto:alowder@tewksbury-ma.gov).

## Finding cures. Saving children.®

Treatments invented at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20 percent to more than 80 percent since we opened more than 50 years ago. We won't stop until no child dies from cancer, but we can't do it without you.

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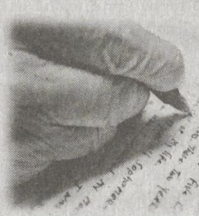
St. Jude patient Sebastian, brain cancer

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St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
Finding cures. Saving children.



# OPINION



## Letters to the editor

### Farmers Market needs residents' help to grow

Dear community members of the Town of Wilmington,

It is with great reverence that we — the Board of Directors of the Wilmington Farmers Market — write to you, our wonderful community. The past 18 months has been nothing short of extraordinary for all of humanity.

For every person, community group, and business, extraordinary has meant something different to each. For the vendors and volunteers of the Wilmington Farmer Market it meant trading our magnificently planned 10th anniversary season for a "produce and seafood drive-thru," and for many of our vendors it meant losing an entire season.

It also meant rebuilding a community cornerstone without a shred of confidence that it would find its way back into the hearts and shopping bags of our beloved community members that we strive to serve for four months each year for the past 11 years.

We share our story with you not for sympathy or empathy, but rather for action. We share our story with you because we need our community support now more than ever, so that we may continue to grow as a Wilmington cornerstone long into the future.

Our organization's mission goes far beyond providing fresh local produce to our community. It reaches into the sphere of education — in particular sustainability and healthy living — through partnerships with other local organizations. The final piece of our mission is to provide a self-sustaining social experience and to foster a sense of community in our town.

As we move into the second half of this market season, we want the community to know that we are committed to our mission both now and into the future. To fulfill this broad mission we need more than just our wonderful

vendors that you know and love to show up week after week with their fruits, vegetables, fish, breads, sweet treats, candles, accessories and wine (did you know we sell wine now?!).

We need more than our board of seven volunteers to put time and energy into planning, sharing, and executing the weekly market. We need more than the one or two volunteers that help us on site to set up and break down each week.

This is our appeal to you — the community! We need you to shop at the market each Sunday from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. We need you to reach out to your friend the musician that might benefit from some grassroots promotion of their upcoming album release by playing for a couple hours on a Sunday morning.

We need you to go to your boss and share the opportunity of being a partner of the market through financial support. We need you to send us referrals for vendors, volunteers, community groups, entertainers, and more so that we can continue to grow and bring to you a fun and healthy Farmers Market. At a minimum, we need you to LIKE and SHARE our social media efforts!

Please visit us at [www.wilmingtonfarmersmarket.com](http://www.wilmingtonfarmersmarket.com) for more information about the market or go to our social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram to share our posts with your network. To get more involved please contact us at [wilmingtonfarmersmarket1@gmail.com](mailto:wilmingtonfarmersmarket1@gmail.com) with your ideas or referrals.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Together with your support we look forward to continuing to bring to you the Wilmington Farmers Market every summer on the Swain Green!

Best regards,  
The Board of Directors

### Afraid of 40B?

## 'Those people' are neighbors, children and parents

To the editor,  
I've been hearing a lot of talk around town regarding a proposed 40B development. There are numerous valid concerns surrounding this hot topic.

Overbuilding in town? Perhaps. Wanting to preserve our beautiful green space? Absolutely. I'm a card-carrying tree hugger! Can our roads and resources handle it? I'm not convinced, yet.

However, there is one concern that has me a bit confused. And that is the constant stigma about 40B housing. I have heard over and over from residents, stating they don't want "it." What do they mean by "it?" Often, that they don't want "Those People" living in their quiet, suburban oasis.

Who are "Those People," and what does 40B mean, exactly?

Massachusetts 40B housing is a state-run program through The Department of Housing and Community Development. It is not Section 8. It is not subsidized housing. Let me explain to you what 40B is, and who it is meant for.

It is a program for working people and families who fall within a very specific income bracket. And in case some of you were unaware, there is a serious housing crisis happening right now in Eastern Massachusetts. I don't need to tell most of you about the skyrocketing real estate prices in town.

In Tewksbury, there is also a shortage of apartments, and those that are

By PAUL J. ANDREWS

The days of summer have passed and school opening day is here as the hopes of so many people focus on the differences they faced last year but back to "near" normal this year. What we are interested to know is whether we will see some changes in what a "normal school day" looks like.

One of the biggest questions is whether there will be changes implemented from what we all learned over the recent phases of the pandemic. What we do know is that the return to school, even in the continuing variance status, should be methodical in a climate where the "pandemic tensions" were so elevated, as the cases increased every day until such time when the vaccinations took root and the numbers decreased in the spring.

There seems to be some interest by some students to do more online work but at the same time we see the need for a carefully developed curriculum to be coupled with an emotion-sensitive awareness to move slowly with any changes from the regular student-teacher instructional process.

My sense is that the return to school will leave plenty of time for remediation and student questions on academics or on issues relating to the pandemic. While we comment on the student's return, I often think of the concerns of our educators and parents.

Teachers faced some incredible changes this past year and had to focus on added technology issues and actual teaching virtually, plus all of the other aspects of the process. This includes happenings in their own lives, as they coupled having their own children home and for many teaching students online in the schools, where they were employed. For parents in general, this will be a big change from last year with adjustments needed.

**SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SHORTAGES** has become a key school news story in recent weeks as people remember the same issue in years past. Yes, the pandemic surge moved this issue off the front pages and television news highlights but the real bus driver shortage issue has not changed. Driving a school bus is just not simple as there are not a

lot of folks who are waiting to be asked to take such positions.

First, one has to be qualified and licensed as a bus driver and have special awareness of the rules and practices, as you have the important job of transporting students safely to and from school. On top of that this year, there are other factors that come into the position.

The addition of the added virus variance, plus the wearing of masks on the bus along with the unvaccinated younger students raises some very significant issues for drivers who take on these positions.

While the job of school bus driver has never been easy, this year has some added factors built into the position for those folks who are entrusted to take care of our students.

**SOME MORNING PULSE EXTRACTIONS** include the following: This is a scary time to retire; It's time to change the conversation from retirement savings to retirement income; Documents reveal natural gas chaos in Texas blackouts; Real estate frenzy overwhelms small town America; Family offices are no longer just for the super wealthy; Millions of consumers paid down their credit balances during the pandemic; US mortgage rates reach three percent for first time since April; Medicare Advantage enrollment doubled in the past decade; Wearing a mask while in a healthcare setting is still recommended; US investors look to Europe for next gains in stock market; Pandemic piles pressure onto Hedge funds; Gasoline shortages disappearing; Growing older isn't the same as aging; in telehealth use soars during COVID-19 pandemic; Nurse Practitioners are vital to healthcare; US gasoline consumption nears pre-pandemic level; German cyber-security chief fears hackers could (they already have) target hospitals; Faith-based investing getting popular; Millennials, Gen Z turn to Tik-Tok for financial advice; Silicon Valley wants dogs to live longer so humans can, too; and Biden administration moves toward making the pandemic "work-from-home experiment" permanent for many federal workers.

### Book Stew Review

## 'Turning Pointe: How a New Generation of Dancers Is Saving Ballet from Itself' by Chloe Angyal

By EILEEN MACDOUGALL

This book is the muck-raking equivalent of Critical Race Theory for ballet. This painful analysis of the many changes required to make ballet relevant for dancers, choreographers, and fans is tough fare from a whistleblower who shreds the pretty face of the art's French court origins — white, male-dominated, physically abusive — and sets an agenda for fixing what's been wrong for so long.

If you can see beyond the Nutcracker sentimentality, you'll learn quite a bit about problems such

as the gender imbalance (male dancers being so coveted that they get away with terrible behavior because there are so few of them), racial imbalance (it's only recently that dancers of color have been able to buy toe shoes and makeup that matches their skin), and the true price that girls and women's feet, ankles, and legs must pay for the unnatural acts that create the perfect "line."

Angyal also focuses on what the Black Lives Matter movement and the pandemic hath wrought: the necessity of radical change, starting with girls staying off pointe until they are 15 and the

inclusion of non-whites at all levels of dance and management.

#### Quotes:

"If story ballets are to survive as more than museum pieces or reheated and re-embroidered replicas of something created in Russia in the 1800s, the distribution of power at the top has to become more equitable by both gender and race."

"Dance educators must be willing to tell the whole story of the Great Men of ballet — the ugly truth of how they treated their dancers as well as the beauty of the choreography they created."

## Zoning Bylaw Committee looking for input

TEWKSBURY — The Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw Committee is looking for input from residents on the draft zoning bylaw located at <https://www.tewksbury-ma.gov/zoning-bylaw-committee>.

Specifically, the Committee is looking for resident input on the Final Zoning Draft and Final Update to Proposed Zoning Map 2021. Please submit your comments or questions to [zoning@tewksbury-ma.gov](mailto:zoning@tewksbury-ma.gov) prior to Oct. 20, 2021.

Maria Zaroulis

Maria Zaroulis is a member of the Tewksbury Board of Health and a resident who is able to stay in her community because of the Mass. Chapter 40B program.

# Town Crier

Tewksbury - Wilmington

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Send Letters to the Editor to:  
[office@yourtowncrier.com](mailto:office@yourtowncrier.com).

All submissions must be accompanied by full name, address, and daytime contact information for verification purposes.  
Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.



# OBITUARIES

## Carol S. (Stone) Celata Worked for the Polaroid Corporation

Carol S. (Stone) Celata, age 78, a long-time resident passed away peacefully at home on Aug. 30, 2021, surrounded by her loving family.

Carol was born on Dec. 12, 1942, in Cambridge; she was the dear daughter of the late Mary S. Eagan and beloved granddaughter of the late Harold L. and Mary Ellen Stone.

Carol was raised and educated in Somerville and graduated from St. Joseph High School, Class of 1960. She also spent many childhood summers in Chicago with her extended family.

Moving to Wilmington in February of 1968, Carol was a stay-at-home mother, raising her children on Fairmeadow Road where she still lived. Like so many of her neighbors, Carol made lifelong friends in the neighborhood and in Wilmington and hosted many family gatherings, holidays celebrations and pool parties.

Carol's children and grandchildren were her life and she made sure to be involved in their work, school and extra-curricular activities.

After raising her children, Carol returned to the workforce and excelled in every job she had. She worked for many years in the legal/patent department at both The Polaroid Corporation and Genzyme/Sanofi both in Cambridge. She loved working in Cam-

bridge and enjoyed her work and her work friends.

In retirement, Carol enjoyed trips with the Wilmington Recreation Department to Hawaii, Alaska, Cape May, Foxwoods, Broadway shows. She looked forward to Friday night dinners with her neighbors and friends and lunches and errands with Mrs. Gedaminsky.

Carol will fondly be remembered as one of the nicest people you'd every speak with, engaging on any topic or subject. She embraced technology and used her iPad every day to text, check social media and play Happy Color right until the end. She will forever be missed.

Carol was the devoted mother of Julie M. DeCosta and her husband Gerard of Litchfield, NH, Richard C. Celata, Jr. and his wife Kelley and Mary Ellen Borland and her husband Lee of North Reading.

Loving "Nonna" of Anthony M. and Alison M. Celata and Emma P. and Alex S. Borland.

Cherished daughter of the late Mary (Stone) Eagan, dear granddaughter of the late Harold L. and Mary Ellen (Canfield) Stone, dear sister of Brule Eagan of San Benito, Texas, the late Marguerite A. Farris, William F. Stone and John C. Stone.

Carol is also survived by her loving cousin and best



friend Jane Niederst of Ventura, California.

Carol was pre-deceased by her special friend Richard C. Celata Sr., with whom she shared her three children.

Family and friends gathered for Visitation at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rt. 62), Wilmington, on Saturday, Sept. 4, 2021, from 10-11:45 a.m. followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Dorothy's Church, Main St. (Rt. 38), Wilmington, at noon. Interment will take place in Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Carol's memory may be made to The ALS Association MA Chapter 685 Canton Street, Suite 103 Norwood, MA 02062 or to Joslin Diabetes Foundation, 1 Joslin Place, Boston, MA 02215.

[www.nicholsfuneralhome.com](http://www.nicholsfuneralhome.com)

## Richard G. Reitchel, Sr. Former Maine State Trooper

Richard G. Reitchel, Sr., 70, passed away peacefully on Aug. 30, 2021, after a long battle with cancer at his home in Zephyrhills, Florida.

Dick was born on Sept. 28, 1950, in Boston. He grew up in Wilmington with his parents, Paul A. Reitchel and Doris V. (Skeffington) Reitchel and his six brothers and two sisters.

He was the third born of nine children. He played sports all through his childhood years and enjoyed playing cards and an occasional trip to Las Vegas, outdoor activities of all kinds including camping, hiking, fishing, boating, hunting, motorcycling and four-wheeling, as well as spending time at his camp in Orient, Maine on East Grand Lake.

Most of all, Dick enjoyed spending time with Debra, his devoted wife and best friend for 32 years, his children, Stacey, Richard, Jr., and Katey.

He was so proud of his three children and enjoyed seeing them grow up into productive, active, loving, caring adults and parents. Dick derived great pleasure out of watching his grandchildren Riley, Paige, Alex, and Reid growing up, playing sports, watching school concerts and spending time with them on family vacations.

Dick graduated from Wilmington High School in 1969 and after high school he went to work for New England Telephone in Boston as a central office equipment installer. In 1976, he moved to Maine where he became a Maine State Trooper graduating with the 33rd Training

Troop in 1977.

He was very proud to be a trooper and part of such a professional, dedicated law enforcement organization. He received the Colonel's Award and Meritorious Service Award during his career as a trooper, detective and sergeant before retiring in 1998.

After retiring from the Maine State Police, Dick worked as a private investigator, a Judicial Marshal in the Maine court system, security officer at Maine General Medical Center, and lastly as a domestic violence investigator for the District Attorney's office, retiring completely in 2018.

In 2020, Dick and Deb moved from Maine to their new home in Zephyrhills, Florida where Dick stayed active playing golf and other park activities.

He is survived by his loving wife Debra J. (Pratt) Reitchel of Zephyrhills, Florida, daughter Anastasia P. (Stacey) Sutter and her husband Robbie Sutter of Palermo, Maine, son Richard G. "Dick" Reitchel, Jr., and his wife Danielle Reitchel of Palermo, Maine, daughter Katherine E. Reitchel, of San Diego, California, as well as his brother Paul L. Reitchel and wife Mary Ellen of Augusta, Maine, brother Kevin F. Reitchel and wife Barbara of Deering, New Hampshire, sister Marilyn J. Reitchel-Gambale of Billerica, brother John D. (Bing) Reitchel and partner Joanne Centrella brother Gene E. Reitchel of Naples, Maine, brother

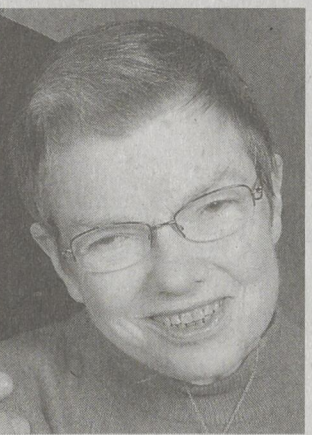


William J. Reitchel and wife Pamela Landry-Reitchel of Bradford, sister Dorice Reitchel and husband Robert Falco of Manchester, New Hampshire, grandchildren Paige and Reid Sutter of Palermo, Maine, Riley and Alexander Reitchel of Palermo, Maine, cherished aunts Joanne Skeffington of Woburn, aunt Linda (Skeffington) Ferrera of California, mother-in-law Margaret Pratt of Randolph, Maine and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Dick is predeceased by his father Paul Andrew Reitchel, mother Doris (Skeffington) Reitchel, and brother James M. Reitchel.

The family would like to thank all the kind and caring people from Dana Farber, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care, Northern Light Continuing Care, Moffitt Cancer Center and especially Gulfside Hospice of Zephyrhills, Florida.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to any of the following Hospitals that treated and cared for Dick.



## Margaret A. 'Peggy' (Reed) Stotts Memorial services held Saturday

Margaret A. "Peggy" (Reed) Stotts, 77, of Barnstable, died Tuesday, Aug. 31, 2021.

Wife of Rev. Dr. Michael R. Stotts. Daughter of the late William and Elizabeth (Lineberger) Reed. Sister of Ellen Pette of Cleveland, OH and the late John Reed. Also survived by two nieces and three nephews.

A Memorial Service was held at 11 a.m. Saturday,

Sept. 4 in the Northside United Methodist Church, 701 Airline Road, Brewster, MA 02631. Interment will be private.

As an expression of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to the Northside Methodist Church, 701 Airline Road, Brewster, MA 02601. Arrangements by Hallett Funeral Home, South Yarmouth, MA

[www.hallettfuneralhome.com](http://www.hallettfuneralhome.com)

## Three students receive Key Award at Elmira College

ELMIRA, NY — Joseph Zuccola, of Wilmington, and Yashita Rane and Emma Spengler of Tewksbury, received the Elmira College Key Award for their academic and community leadership. A tradition that goes back to 1935, the EC Key Award is presented to outstanding students in their junior year of high school or preparatory school.

This year, the award was given to 790 students in 14 states. Recipients receive an \$80,000 scholarship over a four-year period, \$20,000 per year, upon enrolling at Elmira College.

"This award is given to students with the potential to excel academically, serve as leaders, and

go on to enjoy success in life," said Charles Lindsay, president of Elmira College. "We hope they will choose to make Elmira College their place."

Sponsored by the EC Alumni Association, the Key Award recognizes students for high scholastic achievement, leadership, citizenship, and participation in extracurricular activities.

Founded in 1855, Elmira College is a private, residential, liberal arts college offering 25-plus majors, an honors program, 17 academic societies, and 18 Division III varsity teams. Located in the Southern Finger Lakes Region of New York, Elmira's undergraduate and graduate student po-

pulation hails from more than 20 states and nine countries.

Elmira is a Phi Beta Kappa College and has been ranked a top college, nationally, for student internships. The College is also home to the Center for Mark Twain Studies, one of four historically significant Twain heritage sites in the U.S., which attracts Twain scholars and educators from around the world for research on the famous literary icon.

Proud of its history and tradition, the College is committed to the ideals of community service, and intellectual and individual growth.

## Fitzpatrick graduates from Hofstra University

HEMPSTEAD, NY — Colleen Fitzpatrick of Wilmington graduated from Hofstra University in May 2021, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations.

Hofstra University is a nationally ranked and recognized private university in Hempstead, N.Y. that is the only school to ever host three consecutive presidential debates (2008, 2012 and 2016).

Our campus is a leafy oasis just a quick train ride away from New York City and all its cultural, recreational and profes-

sional opportunities. We offer small classes and personal attention, with the resources, technology and facilities of a large university. Students can choose from more than 165 undergraduate program options and 175 graduate program options in the liberal arts and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G.

Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell.

Hofstra University is a dynamic community of 11,000 students from around the world who are dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers.

## Ardito inducted into International Honor Society at Saint Anselm College

MANCHESTER — Saint Anselm College student Katelyn Ardito of Wilmington, a psychology major in the class of 2022, has been accepted into Psi Chi, an international honor society in psychology, for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Students are invited to be inducted into the society if they have completed at least three semesters of full time college coursework, maintained a GPA of 3.00 or higher, and are in the top 35% of

their class. Students must also have declared a major or minor in a psychology program.

Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology, was founded in 1929 with a mission to encourage excellence in scholarship and advance the science of psychology. Today there are over 750,000 lifetime members.

ABOUT  
SAINT ANSELM  
COLLEGE

Founded in 1889, Saint

Anselm College is a nationally-ranked four-year liberal arts college providing a 21st century education in the Catholic, Benedictine tradition.

Located in the greater Boston region in southern New Hampshire, Saint Anselm is well known for its strong liberal arts curriculum, the New Hampshire Institute of Politics, commitment to inclusiveness, a highly successful nursing program, and a legacy of community service.

## Vaccination clinic in Tewksbury

A Tewksbury Community Vaccination Clinic will be held on Friday, Sept. 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

at the Tewksbury Senior Center, 175 Chandler St. Everyone age 12 and over is eligible, and the CO-

VID-19 vaccine is FREE to all.

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LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE TRIAL COURT  
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

MIDDLESEX DIVISION

INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. MI21P4436EA

Estate of: William A. Rose  
Date of Death: June 14, 2021

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Eric W. Rose of Tewksbury MA a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Eric W. Rose of Tewksbury MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

211059 9/8/21

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY  
PLANNING BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING

MODIFICATION TO  
SITE PLAN SPECIAL PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Planning Board will hold a public hearing on September 27, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by Tewksbury Country Club LLC for a Modification to a Site Plan Special Permit for a 2,082 SF accessory residential structure within a commercial zoning district as shown on plans filed with this Board.

Said property is located at 1880 Main Street, Assessor's Map 85, Lot 45, UB2, zoned Commercial.

The application may be examined on the Planning Board webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at [www.tewksbury-ma.gov](http://www.tewksbury-ma.gov). Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on [www.masspublicnotices.org](http://www.masspublicnotices.org).

Stephen Johnson, Chairman  
211038 9/8,15/21

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE TRIAL COURT  
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

MIDDLESEX DIVISION

INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. MI21P2224EA

Estate of: Brian T. Carroll  
Date of Death: 02/09/2021

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Thomas B. Carroll of Brockton MA a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Thomas B. Carroll of Brockton MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

211063 9/8/21



LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the Massachusetts Shade Tree Act (MGL Chapter 87, S.3 as amended) the Department of Public Works will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. for objections, if any, to the removal of (1) Public Shade Tree. The location of the Public Hearing will be at the Department of Public Works Building located at 999 Whipple Road, Tewksbury.

The tree posted for removal is located at: 313 Marston Street  
Species: White Pine  
Size: 24" Diameter Breast Height  
Brian Gilbert, Tewksbury Tree Warden  
211042 9/1,8/21

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE TRIAL COURT  
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate and Family Court

10-U Commerce Way  
Woburn, MA 01801  
(781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION  
TO CHANGE NAME

Docket No. MI21C0696CA

In the matter of:  
Alexandra Kayla Nicolero

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Alexandra Kayla Nicolero of Tewksbury MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Alexander Fawkes Shepherd

IMPORTANT NOTICE  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/29/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: September 01, 2021

Tara E. DeCristofaro,  
Register of Probate  
211075 9/8/21

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

Abbreviated Notice  
of Resource Area  
Delineation (ANRAD)

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on September 15, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street for an ANRAD application filed by Civil Design Consultants, Inc. (CDC) of Andover, Massachusetts for approval of delineated wetland resource areas including Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, Bank, and intermittent/perennial streams. CDC will be representing the applicant, Yvon Cormier of CA Investment Trust. The properties subject to the ANRAD application in which wetland resource areas were delineated are located along Vale Street and Tadmuck Circle, Assessor's Map 112, Lots 23, 87-94.

The application may be examined on the Conservation Commission webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at [www.tewksbury-ma.gov](http://www.tewksbury-ma.gov). Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on [www.masspublicnotices.org](http://www.masspublicnotices.org).

Joe Fontaine, Conservation Agent/Planner  
211067 9/8/21

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

Notice of Planning Board Hearing  
Relative to  
Proposed Zoning By-Law Amendments  
Pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, Section 5

The Planning Board of the Town of Tewksbury will hold a public hearing to discuss proposed amendments to the Town's Zoning By-Laws, as submitted for the October 5, 2021 Special Town Meeting. The public hearing will be held as follows:

Place: Town of Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury and view live through the televised cable channels, Comcast Channel 99 and Verizon Channel 33  
Date: Monday, September 27, 2021  
Time: 7:00 p.m.

The subject matter of the proposed amendments is indicated below. The complete text relative to the proposed amendments is available for inspection during regular business hours at the following locations: Town Clerk's Office and Community Development Office, Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA and the Town's website at [www.tewksbury-ma.gov](http://www.tewksbury-ma.gov).

Article

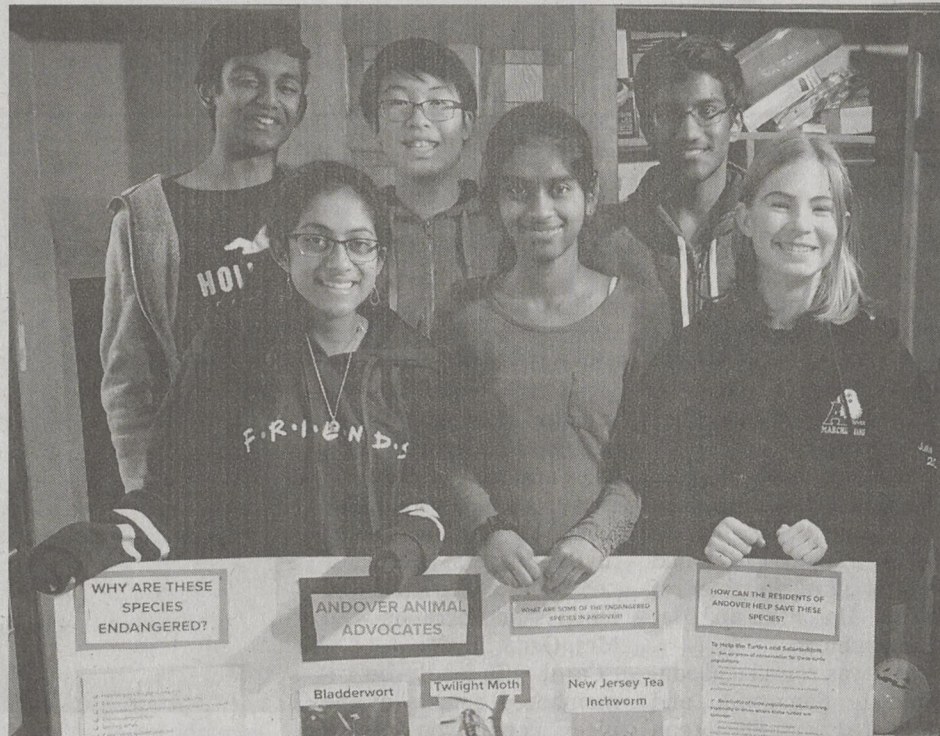
To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's Zoning Bylaws to by replacing, in each instance in which they appear: (1) the words "Board of Selectmen", "Board of Selectman", "Board", or "Selectmen", when such terms reference the entire Board, with the term "Select Board"; the term "Selectman" with "Select Board member" and (3) the term "Chairman" with the term "Chair"; provided, however, that this bylaw amendment shall take effect only after all the provisions of G.L. c.40, s.32 have been met and the special act approved under the Article takes effect.

THE TEWKSBURY PLANNING BOARD  
Stephen Johnson, Chair  
211076 9/8,15/21

PUBLIC NOTICES

Every day throughout the United States newspapers publish thousands of public notices about events, conditions or actions that affect countless individuals, families, neighborhoods and businesses. Public notices cover many topics including guardianships, conservatorships and protective orders, probating wills, business matters, liquor licensing, public auctions and sales, estates, zoning, public meetings, bids to sell goods and services to the government, auctions to dispose of surplus government equipment, local government finances and state and local elections. The public notice is a fundamental component of our system of representative democracy, which depends upon the participation of educated, responsible citizens.

The Town Crier is the Newspaper of Record in Wilmington and Tewksbury, Massachusetts.  
Public notices are published weekly. To place your notice email it to: [legals@dailytimesinc.com](mailto:legals@dailytimesinc.com)  
Deadline for Wednesday's paper is 10 AM on Monday



▲ A group of Andover high school students, including Abhinav Bapanapalli, Diya Ganesh, Mahathi Veluri, Randy Tran, Julia Strong, and Sriniketh Velagapudi, brought a bill to Rep. Tram Nguyen to make the Blue-spotted Salamander the State Amphibian of Massachusetts. (Courtesy photo)

## Making the Blue-spotted Salamander the State Amphibian of Massachusetts

ANDOVER - State Representative Tram T. Nguyen (D-Andover) is pleased to collaborate with Andover's Destination Imagination Team to file legislation that would make the Blue-spotted Salamander the State Amphibian of Massachusetts.

A group of Andover high school students, including Abhinav Bapanapalli, Diya Ganesh, Mahathi Veluri, Randy Tran, Julia Strong, and Sriniketh Velagapudi, brought this bill to Rep. Nguyen. The students make up Andover's Destination Imagination (DI) team, the Andover Animal Advocates.

For the state DI competition, the team took on the issue of endangered species in Andover, winning first prize at the state competition and at the DI Global Tournament. As part of their project, they identified 29 endangered species in Andover; then conducted a poll on the species, focusing on amphibians, which are an indicator of the health of an ecosystem, due to their sensitivity to changes in the environment.

The team collected 533 poll responses from across the Commonwealth, and the Blue-spotted Sala-

mander won with 41 percent of the vote.

"The Blue-spotted Salamander is an important part of our local ecosystem," said Rep. Nguyen. "But that is only one reason that I filed this bill. A big reason is another important species even more vital to the sustainability of our planet: students who care. When students get involved, we are all better off. Which is why I am grateful that these students came to me with their request to make the democratically-selected Blue-spotted Salamander the State Amphibian of Massachusetts. It was an honor to file their bill, and it is encouraging to see my colleagues in the State House sign on as co-sponsors."

The Andover Animal Advocates team agrees.

"This bill extends far beyond selecting a new state symbol for the Commonwealth; it acts as a gateway to greater environmental awareness. We believe that if this bill passes, we can raise awareness of the disappearing Vernal pool habitats and the many species that depend on them. This is a problem that is more urgent today than ever."

According to the Advocates, the Blue-spotted Salamander has become endangered due to loss of its wetland habitat. It is helpful to humans in that it helps to control pests like mosquitos, slugs, and other harmful insects. The Blue-spotted Salamander is a key species for identifying Vernal pools, which are part of a wetlands system that nourishes our ponds and streams; their existence means our environment is healthy.

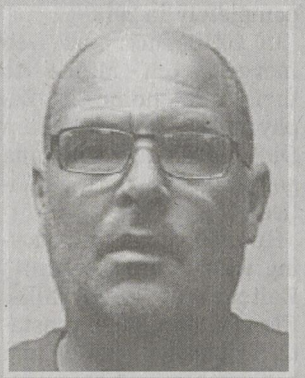
More information can be found on their website: <https://sites.google.com/view/andover-animal-advocates/home>.

"This year I've passed bills to protect working families and victims of domestic violence, and I am working on legislation on hate crimes, education, and debt collection. And it's also my job to encourage the next generation of leaders," added Rep. Nguyen. "By sponsoring this bill, I am helping our students raise awareness about our environment — and inviting them to use the legislative process to protect it. Someday these young people will be running our world, and we'll be better off for it. It's a win-win."

## Police arrest male party for seventh OUI drug offense

TEWKSBURY — On Sept. 1, 2021 the Tewksbury Police Department arrested, Edward Gardner, 51 years old, of 55 High St., Billerica for OUI Drugs 7th offense, and numerous motor vehicle violations including revoked license, marked lanes violation, a number plate violation, and operating to endanger.

At 9:18 a.m. officers observed an erratic operator traveling south on Main Street, vehicle did not have a front or rear license plate. Officers conducted a motor vehicle stop during which the operator showed signs of



▲ GARDNER

impairment.

During the stop officers learned Gardner's license was revoked (habitual traffic offender), and further investigation led to the arrest of the

aforementioned individual.

Gardner was due to be arraigned at Lowell District Court on Sept. 2, 2021.

The Tewksbury Police Department urges any citizens who suspect criminal activity to call the Dispatch Center at 978-851-7373. If you wish to remain anonymous please call the Tip Line at 978-851-0175 or send an email to [tewks\\_detectives@tewksbury-ma.gov](mailto:tewks_detectives@tewksbury-ma.gov).

All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



▲ MAKSOU

▲ GILCHRIST

## Two arrested on numerous drug and gun charges

TEWKSBURY — On Sept. 1, 2021, following a narcotics investigation in the area of 1785 Andover St., Tewksbury Police arrested Adam Maksou, 35 years old, of 154 Haverhill St., Reading, and Gordon Gilchrist, 35 years old, of 95 Main St., Apt 156, Tewksbury.

Maksou was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine over 18 grams, carrying a dangerous weapon (double edged

knife), unlawful possession of a firearm, unlawful possession of a stun gun, unlawful possession of ammunition, possession of a firearm with a defaced serial number, and possession of a class b substance (naloxone/buprenorphine) subsequent offense.

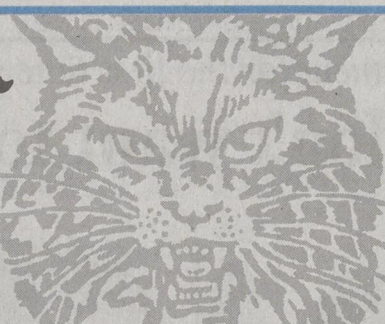
Gilchrist was charged with unlawful possession of a firearm, unlawful possession of ammunition, and possession of a firearm with a defaced serial

number.

Maksou and Gilchrist were due to be arraigned at Lowell District Court on Sept. 2, 2021.

The Tewksbury Police Department urges any citizens who suspect criminal activity to call the Dispatch Center at 978-851-7373. If you wish to remain anonymous please call the Tip Line at 978-851-0175 or send an email to [tewks\\_detectives@tewksbury-ma.gov](mailto:tewks_detectives@tewksbury-ma.gov).





# Wildcats ready to pounce

"Normal" high school sports seasons starting up this week

## Schedule kicks off Friday at Woburn

By JAMIE POTE  
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com  
WOBURN - You would think that since Woburn High School is probably ten minutes away from Wilmington High, that the two schools would have played each other more than seven times over the 86-year history.

And you would think that the school of Woburn's size, would have the advantage in the series against the little pesky 'Cats, but again that's not the case. In the seven games, Wilmington leads 4-3, but have gone 1-4 since 2011 and been outscored 91-53 in that span.

The 'Cats took the first three meetings, in 1938 (6-0), 1939 (20-0) and 1941 (18-0) and then schools then didn't play each other for the next 60 years until 2011 when the 'Cats were defeated 39-29. In 2012, Wilmington won its fourth game via shut out, 10-0, before falling 35-6 in a playoff consolation game in 2015 and then 17-8 in a non-league game in 2019.

Come Friday night at Woburn High School beginning at 7 pm, the two teams will meet for the

OPENER PGB7W



The 2021 Wilmington High School Football team will be led by its four captains, from left, Gavin Erickson, Marcello Misuraca, Jake Chirichiello, and John Rhind. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

## Expectations high for WHS Football team

By JAMIE POTE  
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com  
WILMINGTON - Certainly we can all attest that this past winter/spring was an odd football season. There were freezing cold nights, blistering hot weather, only six games, masks and it just was different.

Here in Wilmington, the Fall-2 season was pretty successful as the Wildcats finished 4-2 with wins over Burlington, Wakefield, Watertown and Winchester, and defeats

against league/state powers Melrose and Stoneham.

Now comes this fall season where everything should be back to normal. Wilmington returns almost the entire team with the exception of captain Stephen Smolinsky, who will be a big loss. All he did was score 62 points, including five rushing TDs, one receiving TD, while booting a pair of field goals, 12 PATs and adding a conversion rush.

While he has since graduated, the remaining core

of the team has been together for three years now, and for fifth year head coach Craig Turner, he's been talking about this group for quite some time now.

"I have been telling them since their freshmen year that this class is going to do some really good things," said Turner. "It's a shame that we didn't have playoffs last year because I think we were peaking at the right time and maybe we might have been able to make some noise.

This group seems poised to be a real competitive group. What that translates to in terms of wins and losses, I don't know, but we're playing a little bit of a tougher schedule than we normally do and the league is just really tough. Burlington is going to be a lot better. They were very young last year and they bring back a ton of kids and got two transfers from Austin Prep, who are both really good. They should be right in

WILDCATS PGB6W

## Rhind is ready to shine in final season

By JAMIE POTE  
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com  
WILMINGTON - Athletically speaking, John Rhind can play, whether it's football or lacrosse, he certainly does alright on the fields.

In football, he's extremely valuable because he can play so many positions. On defense he has gone from defensive end to line-backer during his freshmen and sophomore seasons at the sub-varsity level, and this past spring he switched back to DE in his first year as a starter on the varsity team. This fall he's going back to line-backer.

Offensively, he returns for his second season as the team's starting tight end. He only caught two passes last season because he was there to block. He was instrumental in the team finishing 4-2 back in April, which included the team rushing for 1,043 yards in six games, an average of 174 per game and 4.1 per carry.

If his teammates had a choice, they would like to see his athleticism shine somewhere else. Head Coach Craig Turner says no way to that.

"Rhind might be the most irreplaceable guy that we

RHIND PGB6W

## Soccer captain has dreams of performing on Broadway

# Academics, Athletics and Dancing: Curdo does it all

By JAMIE POTE  
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com

WILMINGTON - Audrey Curdo can remember it so vividly. She was a freshman, who had found out a few days earlier that she made the varsity team and she was preparing for her first game.

"I remember Coach (Sue) Hendee coming up to me and telling me that I was starting (the game as a defensive back). I was terrified and it was so scary but I am so glad that she pushed me to do it," said Curdo. "Over the years I have worked on my footskills and I feel like that I have grown as a player, plus I have seen my teammates grow alongside of me, which is great."

While Curdo was green with no varsity experience with the Wilmington High School girls' soccer team at the time, she was also kind of green in the skillset area as well.

"Audrey has really grown from her freshman year," said Hendee. "That season, she decidedly was right-

footed and then being the person that she is, she worked really hard on that and improved a ton. That has made her a much less predictable player which is always good as you don't want to be predictable in soccer. She is just solid. She communicates well, she has a great soccer-IQ, she really understands the game so she's not reacting, she's proactive and she puts herself in the right position. She's hard on herself. She makes a mistake and she makes sure that she doesn't do it again. She also has a really strong leg, too."

That strong leg has not only helped her earn Middlesex League All-Star status last year as a dominant defender and pushed her to being named one of the three captains on this year's team, but it's also helped her with her pas-

sions. Outside of soccer, she is heavily involved with performing arts, in particular, dancing, singing and has been the lead in multiple school plays as far back as middle school.

She dances 40 hours a week at the advanced stage, is a tap dancer instructor, and during the winter days, she shifts to overtime as she surpasses the 40 hours a week because of the Nutcracker.

"I mainly focused on

CURDO PGB5W



Wilmington High School senior Audrey Curdo is one of the three captains on this year's Girls Soccer team. Besides her passion for soccer, she's also a dancer/singer, practicing 40 hours a week. Her dream is to perform on Broadway. (courtesy photos).





## Volleyball Team hoping to qualify for the state tournament for the first time since 2004

# With many returners, 'Cats don't want to pass this chance up

By JAMIE POTE  
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com  
WILMINGTON - If there had to be a COVID season, where the schedule of games had to be shifted as well as cut in half, for the Wilmington High Volleyball team probably would have picked this past March/April to do that.

The program had a new coach, who inherited a team with just two seniors, so getting familiar with one another, while learning new systems certainly would take some time.

Over the course of that Fall-2 season, the Wildcats improved by leaps and bounds and finished the season with a 4-7 record, including playing multiple games at the end of the season in the Middlesex League tournament.

Now with the fall season here, second year head coach Lauren Donoghue certainly once has her hands filled, or will literally soon. She's several weeks away from having a child, and the program is still without a JV coach.

Things may be hectic, but when you asked her about the potential of varsity team, the smile was from ear-to-ear.

"We had a scrimmage (last) Tuesday night against North Reading and it went really well. We won in three sets. Going into it, we had only practiced one day and truly I said to the girls have fun as this is just an experience to learn about things that we have to work on for the rest of the season," said Donoghue. "They played really well together. We mixed up some



The captains on the 2021 WHS Volleyball team include from left, Lauren Hutchison, Haeleigh Wilson and Alyssa Fricia. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

things offensively and defensively, moved some people around to different positions that they didn't play last year and we even had one of the sophomores who is new to the roster get into the rotation, too.

"They all played really well together, we had some strong servers and things looked good in terms of having just one practice and coming off the spring season. I think this team has a lot of potential. My focus is to push forward with potential that we have and not let teams creep in when we're ahead. That was something that we struggled with last spring. They proved that they were willing to do that in

the scrimmage and actually we had to come from behind a few times. Getting out of comfort zone in certain situations, and not playing down to certain levels and competition, will be key.

"We do have nine returning players so it's a good core foundation and position wise which is great and there's room for a few others to mix in. I'm optimistic with what this team has in store but it's going to hurt next year when we lose nine seniors."

The team will be led by its three captains including Haeleigh Wilson, Alyssa Fricia and Lauren Hutchison.

"Haeleigh is setting and we're running a 5-1

(offense). Mia Vestal is her opposite right side hitter," said the coach. "Alyssa is playing libero, Lauren is playing defensive specialist and Maddie McCarron is in the middle. We are using Sarah LaVita to play both outside and middle, and then we have Meg O'Mahony to play on the outside.

"In the scrimmage we got Bell (Kieran) and Shaylan (Bresnahan) into the mix as well. We have some height, probably three girls over six-feet with Maddie, Sarah and Shaylan."

Most of the nine seniors bring a lot of experience to the table including the three captains along with Kieran, LaVita, Meg O'Mahony as well as

Paige Lohrman, Laura Tran and Emily McHugh.

Wilson returns as the setter and thus far she looks strong.

"This is Haeleigh's third season on varsity so obviously this is not new for her, which is great. She's very consistent all-around, both setting and she can swing too," said the coach. "She's just a reliable player all-around and that's what we need to run an offense. That's the goal is to keep pushing and these captains did a really good job of running things over the summer. We ran a summer league, they did their captains practice stuff and a lot of them did clinics and camps to stay in shape. "Plus, a lot of them

played club which is big too. I took two sophomores and they also did stuff over the summer so when tryouts started you can certainly tell right away who has not touched a volleyball since last season."

The junior class includes Vestal, McCarron and Sloane MacIntyre, and the two sophomores are Maria Cummings and Bresnahan.

The entire 16-member squad will open the season on Thursday night at home against Belmont starting at 5:30 pm. The goal for the team is to qualify for the state tournament for the first time since 2004.

"It is (our goal) and we need to put pressure (on everyone to reach that goal)," said Donoghue with a laugh. "I think the captains would agree that at minimal, reaching the state tournament is the goal. We at least want to break through and I really think that obviously the Middlesex League is really challenging, but a lot of the teams lost a lot of players from last year's season. We only lost two so I'm hoping that puts us at an advantage a little bit.

"It's more about all of them being on the same page and everyone wanting it as bad as some of them do. We are right there and it's just a matter of pushing ahead. They have done a great job with all of the summer stuff to find those right connections with one another so I do think the chemistry is there and it's just a matter of pushing through during the times when things aren't going so well for us."

## Defensive star Hutchison serving up the right attitude

By JAMIE POTE  
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com  
WILMINGTON - Wilmington High School senior Lauren Hutchison said "it's a passage for every kid in Wilmington to play youth soccer."

Indeed she was one of those kids, like the rest of us.

As she did that during her childhood days, her thoughts started to drift. Entering the eighth grade, she started to hear more and more about the sport of volleyball. The summer entering high school, she signed up for a one week camp of soccer and then decided to also do a one week camp of volleyball.

"The first day of the volleyball camp I knew that I had already liked it more than I liked soccer so I stopped soccer and tried out for volleyball," she said.

Since that decision, she played two years at the JV level before making the leap to varsity during this past Fall-2 season, where she was terrific in the back row as a defensive specialist. Now she is one of the captains on this 2021 fall team. Certainly to say that she's come a long way in the sport is an understatement.

"Lauren has a great attitude on and off the court," said head coach Lauren Donoghue. "Even when we have needed her to play all the way around the court, and despite being the shortest player, she will play the front row successfully and play back row defensively successfully, that's a key aspect when you're able to put a player at any key position and be OK."

"Reliable, super confident are what we need her to be. Defensively is by far her strength and her and Alyssa (Fricia) make a great pair in the back row. Their relationship on and off the court helps a lot because you need that. Not everyone has to be best friends, but working together helps so much in

this game, especially mentally when you struggle at times."

When she started as a freshman, Hutchison had no idea what position she should or wanted to play. Quickly that changed.

"In my first tryout ever at Wilmington High, the (JV) coach (at the time) was Bridget Shainwald and she immediately told me that she thought I would be playing in the back row. I don't know if she saw it or something, and I have been playing in the back row ever since. I did play some outside last year if they needed someone."

Certainly you don't see 5-foot-2 girls playing in the front row too often, but Donoghue said there's been times that Hutchison has done that - because she's such a team player.

"Obviously I'm not the tallest person so that's not my strength, but I can see the court pretty well," said Hutchison. "(Playing in the back row) you don't always have to hit the ball (to play the position well). I wish I was taller so I could 100 percent hit the ball better and probably more consistent and have harder hits, but I also don't mind it at all because I can still do it just fine in the back row."

Being in the back row is extremely difficult. You are constantly trying to get at shots that are fired at you from 6-foot tall outside and middle hitters. You need quick feet, you need to be smart, you need to react and you need strength and agility.

In one second, the (opposing) setter sets up the ball and you have to see which hitter it's going to out of three options," described Hutchison. "You have to adjust how you are playing defensively to how each hitter is hitting. There's some really good Middlesex League teams that we play and they have some really strong hitters."

Obviously one person can't get to every ball that's hit - and for

Hutchison, having a good buddy there next to her for some help and guidance, has proved to be so worthwhile.

"(Alyssa and I) have been really good friends since we were very young. She's an extremely good player in the back row. I play left back and she's switching to play in the middle. No matter where she is in the back row, she's very good at communicating, she runs the back row, she's loud and she's very good at talking. It's great, honestly. She's a very good asset to the team," said Hutchison.

The two of them along with the other captain Haeleigh Wilson, all did their part helping the other members of the program work in the off-season whether it was playing club, joining the summer leagues, going to captains' practices or doing things on your own, all things necessary to help this program move up the ladder and out of the cellar.

"I have played club for the past two years. We did the Woburn Summer League, we hosted our own summer league, we did captains practices twice a week in the morning. It was so important to do all of those things and just like coach said, you can absolutely tell who has not picked up a volleyball since last season ended," she said.

Since most of the returning players have picked up a volleyball at least once in the off-season, the captain said there's a lot of hope of turning the ship around and qualifying for the state tournament for the first time since 2004.

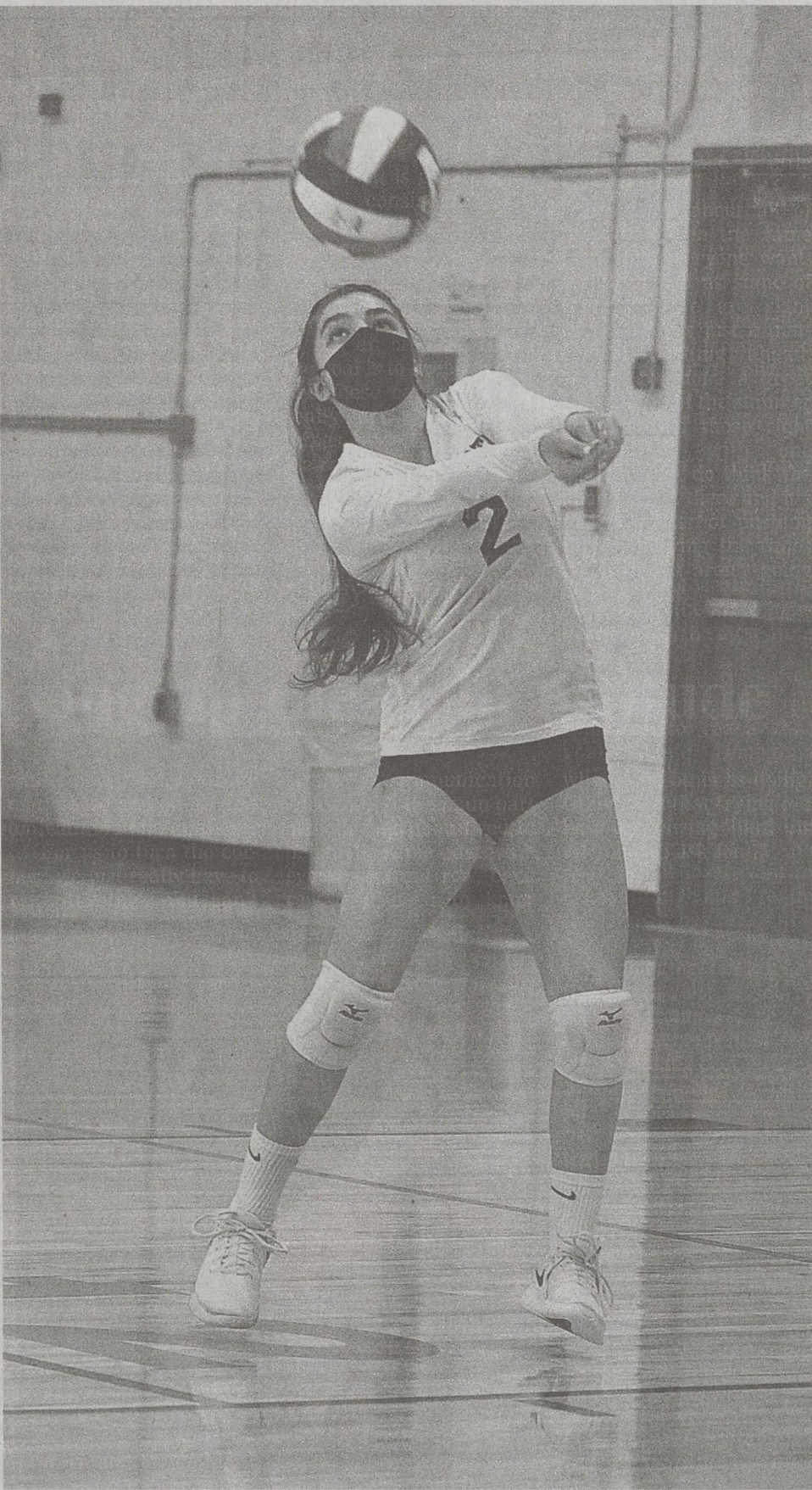
"We definitely have a strong roster this year especially with all of the seniors that we do have," said the National Honor Society member, who is looking at schools like Northeastern, Boston College and Boston University. "I think it's going to be a good season because we have been playing together for a

while now. We're strong on defense and on offense too with Maddie up there.

"(For us to turn the corner) we just really have to work together. You can't

stress communication enough. It's the main part of volleyball. You need to be on the same page with everyone, front row, back row, you need to know

what each other is doing. Other than that trying our best and swing hard (is all you can ask for)."



Wilmington High School senior Lauren Hutchison returns to the Volleyball team this year as a defensive specialist, as well as one of the team's captains.

(file photo/Bob DeChiara).



## WHS Boys Soccer Preview

## Young and inexperienced roster hoping to learn and grow

By JAMIE POTE  
Sports Editor

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WILMINGTON - The last handful of seasons have been quite challenging for the Wilmington High School Boys' Soccer team. Whether it's been simply overmatched by the superior teams from the Middlesex League, injuries and last year the COVID-19 abbreviated season, which included drastic rule changes and the pause button being pushed twice on the season - including one for a month - it seems like challenges after challenges.

That being said last year's season was successful for the most part when the team did play. Wilmington, coming off a 1-15-2 season from the year before, returned 13 varsity players, added two from other sports, and finished 2-3-1 overall. The challenging season included playing several games on consecutive days after having a month off, all during COVID season.

Now comes this fall season, and while there's no crazy rules to adhere to, the 'Cats are once again pinned up against the 'Challenge Wall'. As of Monday night, the team has spent maybe ten hours collectively together, barely with any prac-

tices under their belts due to more pause buttons being pushed.

"Our pre-season has been derailed by the heat exemptions and COVID," said head coach Steve Scanlon. "We were able to scrimmage but with paired down groups. We're hoping to get some reinforcements this week, a few of them anyway. We are way behind. We are definitely behind the 8-ball and we also have a brand new team."

"I only have a handful of kids who have any varsity action and just one returning starter. Most of the juniors we have this is their first varsity experience. We are young, inexperienced and we're in a difficult league. We're definitely going to have some growing pains."

The team will be led by its tri-captains, all seniors including goalie Liam Dwyer, midfielder/forward Anay Gandhi and forward Willie Stuart. Gandhi is the lone returning starter. Stuart as well as senior Evan Shackelford and juniors Ryan Wilson (defense) and Dillon McGrath (midfielder) also logged some varsity time last year.

"Anay is a solid player for us and we expect Evan and Willie to be pretty much, too," said Scanlon.

Newcomers include juniors Cooper Loisel, who is



The captains on the 2021 WHS Boys Soccer team will be from left, Willie Stuart, Liam Dwyer and Anay Gandhi. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

battling for the top goalie position with Dwyer, defenders Pat LeBlanc, Tom Sica, Matt Steinmetz and Gilberto Junior, as well as forward Moiad Said.

The sophomore group

includes Mike Oatis and Dan Lagunilla, who may split time between forward and midfield, another striker is Jonathan Foresyth, midfielders include Ethan Kennedy and Ben Marvin and on

defense it'll be Remy Elliott, Aidan Burke and Charlie Rosa.

"The group of tenth graders as a whole, look like there's a lot of promising players, it's just they are young and new," said

Scanlon.

Wilmington opens its season on Friday at the North Intermediate at 4 pm against Belmont.

## Willson to lead the charge on the defensive end

By JAMIE POTE  
Sports Editor

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WILMINGTON - Heading into this season, the Wilmington High School Boys' Soccer team is extremely young and inexperienced. Besides that there's been some delays in the pre-season schedule due to the heat and a COVID issue.

On top of that, the program has struggled for wins, combining for a 3-18-4 record the past two years.

It's going to take some time before the new players can get their feet wet and adjust to the fast tempo of varsity soccer, nevermind the grueling schedule of the Middlesex League.

The 'Cats return one starter from last year in midfielder Anay Gandhi, while a handful of others gained a lot of playing time, including Ryan Willson, who will now be inserted as the team's full-time center-back. He will have a much bigger role for the team this season and head coach Steve Scanlon certainly thinks he can handle it.

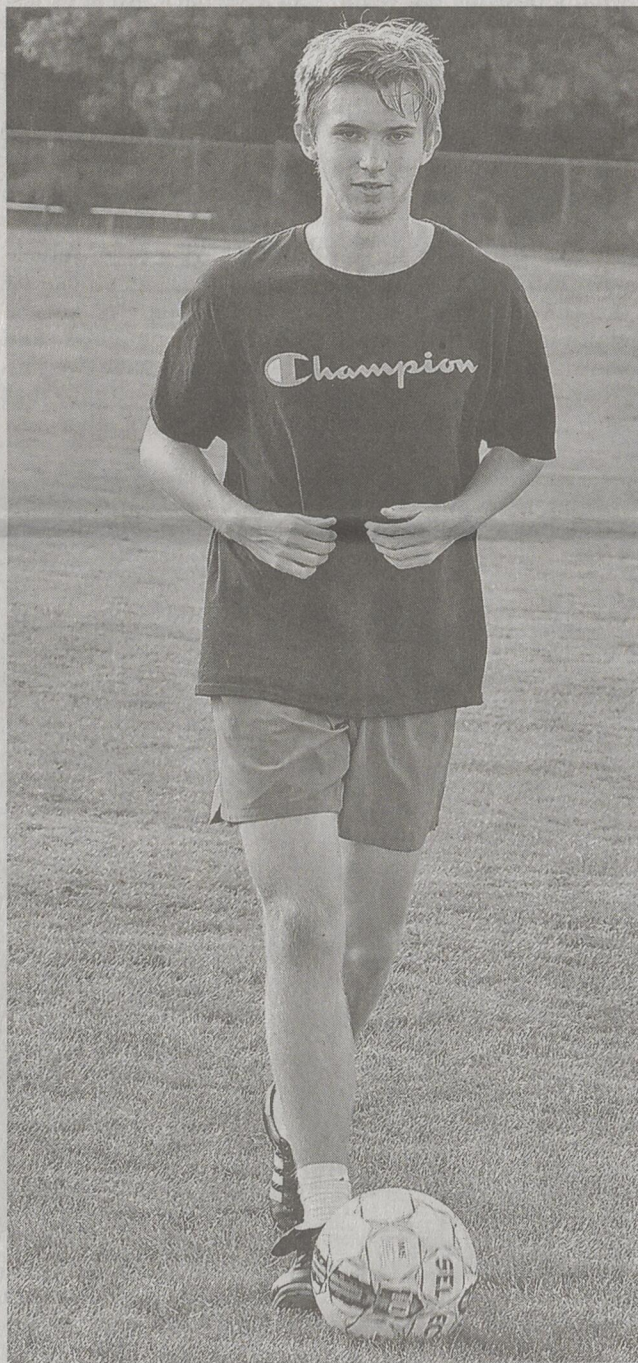
"Ryan played last year and he's one of your stronger players coming back this season. He's a big strong defender who can play all over the field. He can go forward for you too as he has a pretty good knack for the offensive part of the game, just as he does for the defensive side."

"He's very competitive, he's got good skills, he's a hard worker so we're going to be relying a lot on him (on defense). He's a center-back but I pull him forward sometimes to be an attack midfielder. He can play a lot of different positions. He's a good athlete who has good instincts."

Willson is the youngest of two children as his sister Julia was a member of the WHS Volleyball team several years ago and now attends Springfield College.

"(Our relationship has) been good. We go to the gym together and I play volleyball with her sometimes. I would go to her games and she would come to mine, so it's great having her there," he said.

Going to the gym and playing for various



Wilmington High junior defensive player Ryan Willson is showing a lot of promise as a member of the Boys Varsity Soccer team, who open the season on Friday. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

Wilmington Youth Soccer travel teams has helped Ryan improve his game. As of now, it appears as if he will be playing alongside junior Peter LeBlanc and sophomores Remy Elliott and Aidan Burke.

"They are good to play with. Last year the full-back line was all seniors and they all had different techniques and playing styles, so I think these practices have allowed us to play better in the back," he said.

The entire pre-season has been about adjusting and getting used to one another - despite the limited practice times through those different obstacles.

"It's looking good right now. We're all trying to get over the obstacles right now that we have went through during the pre-season so it's good that we're finally able to play with each other and prepare for the season," Willson said, before later adding, "We're fairly young this season."

"Right now there's a lot

of adjusting and a lot of spots that need to be filled. I'm used to playing with a lot of the seniors that we had last year so it's a big adjustment for me initially, but between the summer league and practicing now, has helped us get better as a team."

Willson admitted that last year's abbreviated season was tough to deal with, but the team was just excited to be out on the field together. He certainly is glad that "real soccer" has returned this year, and is looking forward to the many challenges that the team will face in these next two months.

"There's a lot of pressure on us but I feel like that also gives us a lot of confidence. We're willing to take the challenge (of facing the tough teams) and allows us to push even harder," he said. "It's all about effort and communication and if we can do those things we'll grow as a team and hopefully win more games."

## Golfers driving towards a successful and fun season

By MIKE IPPOLITO  
Sports Correspondent

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WILMINGTON - Last season was a tough one in many ways for the Wilmington High Golf team, as the Wildcats struggled to an 0-7 record on the season, their third consecutive winless campaign. But more than their struggles to get into the win column, the cruelest blow for the Wildcats came when their season was cut short with three matches still remaining on their schedule.

When it was announced in late October of 2020 that all Fall sports at Wilmington High would be postponed for two weeks due to the pandemic, it meant a delay in the schedule for most teams. But for the golf team, it meant the end of the season, as it would have been nearly impossible to play a complete match by the time the two week period was over, due to it getting dark so early.

One will never know if a win would have been in the cards for the Wildcats in any of those final three matches, but what is clear is that the Wildcats will be doing everything they can to snap the losing streak and bring home some wins this season.

With a roster that includes several returning starters, including all five players at the top of the lineup, the Wildcats look poised to find their way back into the win column under the direction of 15th year head coach Steve Lynch.

Despite not picking up any wins last season, the Wildcats did improve as the season went on and players gained more experience. Lynch is hoping that the improvement continues into this season.

"Our top five players are essentially the same as last year. We only lost two seniors, so our core is good," Lynch said. "The schedule as always is very challenging, but we are

encouraged by our early season scores."

The schedule will indeed do the Wildcats no favors this season, as unlike last year when they were facing only Middlesex Freedom Division opponents, this year they will also be facing Liberty Division foes, including powerhouses Lexington and Winchester, making the task of picking up those elusive wins even more difficult.

"It is hard to compete with those teams and the kids know what they are up against," Lynch said. "But they will go out and play the best they can and we will see what happens."

Leading the way in their quest to compete in every match this season will be the Wildcats number one player, senior Matt Vinal. He will be followed in the number two slot by junior Owen Mitchell.

"Matt is just a natural

GOLF PG4W

## Where's the Action?

Day	Date	Sport	Opponent	Time
<b>Wilmington High Sports</b>				
Thursday	September 9	V Volleyball	vs Belmont	5:30 pm
Thursday	September 9	V Field Hockey	at Belmont	7:15 pm
Friday	September 10	V Boys Soccer	vs Belmont	4:00 pm
Friday	September 10	V Girls Soccer	at Belmont	4:00 pm
Friday	September 10	V Volleyball	at Tewksbury	5:30 pm
Friday	September 10	V Football	at Woburn	7:00 pm
Monday	September 13	V Golf	vs Burlington	3:45 pm
Monday	September 13	V Boys Soccer	at Reading	4:00 pm
Monday	September 13	V Field Hockey	vs Reading	4:00 pm
Monday	September 13	V Volleyball	vs Reading	5:30 pm
Tuesday	September 14	V Golf	at Belmont	3:30 pm
Tuesday	September 14	V Girls Soccer	vs Reading	4:00 pm
Tuesday	September 14	V Volleyball	at Winchester	5:15 pm
Wednesday	September 15	V Boys Soccer	at Tewksbury	3:45 pm
Wednesday	September 15	V Field Hockey	vs Tewksbury	3:45 pm
<b>Shawsheen Tech Sports</b>				
Thursday	September 9	V Golf	at Nashoba Tech	3:30 pm
Thursday	September 9	V Girls Soccer	at Innovation Acad	4:00 pm
Friday	September 10	V Football	at Bedford	7:00 pm
Tuesday	September 14	V Golf	vs Lowell Catholic	3:30 pm
Tuesday	September 14	V Boys Soccer	at Essex Tech	4:00 pm
Tuesday	September 14	V Girls Soccer	vs Essex Tech	4:00 pm
Wednesday	September 15	B/G Cross-Country	at Lowell Catholic	4:00 pm
<b>Tewksbury High Sports</b>				
Thursday	September 9	V Girls Soccer	vs North Andover	3:45 pm
Thursday	September 9	V Boys Soccer	at Billerica	6:00 pm
Friday	September 10	V Swimming	vs Chelmsford	3:30 pm
Friday	September 10	V Volleyball	vs Wilmington	5:30 pm
Saturday	September 11	V Boys Soccer	vs Danvers	10:00 am
Saturday	September 11	V Football	vs Danvers	1:30 pm
Monday	September 13	V Volleyball	at Bedford	5:30 pm
Tuesday	September 14	V Swimming	vs North Andover	3:30 pm
Tuesday	September 14	V Girls Soccer	vs Haverhill	3:45 pm
Tuesday	September 14	V Boys Soccer	at Dracut	6:30 pm
Wednesday	September 15	V Field Hockey	at Wilmington	3:45 pm
Wednesday	September 15	V Boys Soccer	vs Wilmington	3:45 pm
Wednesday	September 15	V Golf	at Lawrence	4:00 pm
Wednesday	September 15	V Volleyball	vs North Andover	5:30 pm





The WHS Field Hockey team will be led by its tri-captains, from left, Kailyn St. Jean, Celia Kulis and Rita Roche. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

WHS Field Hockey Preview

Coach, team, sticking to the basics during pre-season

By JAMIE POTE Sports Editor

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WILMINGTON - A year ago at this time, the Wilmington High School Field Hockey team entered the abbreviated COVID-19 season with a senior-laden team. That group led the 'Cats to a 4-4 record - winning their first four games before falling in the last four - despite playing with drastic rule changes including no offensive or defensive corners and 7-on-7.

That large group of seniors have since graduated, yet another large group is here for this season. This year's roster is comprised of 14 seniors and two juniors.

"Quite honestly, we have brought everything back to the basics here during the tryouts and the early part of the practices, so we're already seeing some improvements," said head coach Leanne Ebert. "We are just trying to help them re-learn the basics. We have lower numbers this year, but we have a large group of seniors with 14 of them and they just all lead by example."

Part of the reason the coaches have had to go back to the basics is because of the rule changes - so it's been two years since these girls have played in an actual competitive field hockey game.

"We had one scrimmage to this point and we plugged in different kids in different spots. They

looked good for not playing 11-vs-11 for two years," said the coach. "I was really proud of them and when I asked them what they thought they needed to work on, they responded with everything I was going to say, so to me that's great that they have perspective. They see what needs to be improved and they go out and try to do it or they are telling me what they need so I can plan the practices for those things."

This year's team will be led by tri-captains Rita Roche, Kailyn St. Jean and Celia Kulis. Roche returns for her fourth year at the varsity after being pulled up midway through her freshman season. She along with fellow forward Sonny Rebeiro will be looked upon to score the majority of the goals.

Both St. Jean and Kulis will be the team's two center midfielders. St. Jean will play more on the defensive side and Kulis more on the offensive side.

"Kailyn's position is one where that person is just everywhere and they really control the field," said Ebert. "Celia has a lot of skills and she has a lot of energy. She can carry the ball and then can give it a ride and that's what we need. Same with St. Jean - she's really good at feeding the (forwards) ball. We're looking for help for all of them."

Gabriella Monteforte and Amanda Solari add depth to the midfield,

while up front, giving support to Roche and Rebeiro include Nokomis Bramantecohen, Taylor Breen, Ava DeProfio and Jenna Danieli.

Finally on defense, it'll be Corinn Flanagan, Carina O'Donnell, Alyssa Rago, Allison Foley and Emily Fothergill, who are playing in front of new starting goalie Marisa Bryan.

Kulis, Danieli, Foley, Rebeiro, St. Jean, Roche and Bryan are all returners, while, O'Donnell and DeProfio are the two juniors.

A day after her interview, Ebert said that the team had a playday and there she was hoping to sort some things out.

"We have 16 girls on the roster which is a pretty small number compared to years past, so we're really going to have to work as a team and really be interchangeable on the field," she said. "We're still playing with the 4-2-1-2-1 formation We tried it a couple of years ago and we're playing with it now. Last year was all different formations. Right now we're starting with this and at the scrimmage the girls did really well with this formation. I already told them where I might have them now could all change in a few weeks."

Wilmington will open the season on Thursday night at Belmont at 7:15 pm before coming home on Monday to face Reading at 4 pm.

Roche ready to be a pest once again at opposing nets

By JAMIE POTE Sports Editor

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WILMINGTON - Back in the midway point of the 2018 season, Wilmington High School Field Hockey coach Leanne Ebert needed a little more scoring punch from her forward line, so she decided to pull up a JV player named Rita Roche.

"And she's been a scoring machine for us ever since," cracked the coach.

The number of goals Roche has scored over the past 2.5 years is not known, but it's been a lot. She's one of those athletes, who not only has terrific skills and athleticism, but has the knack for going to the net, for finding the ball, for pouncing on rebounds and more importantly, never giving up on a play.

"(Her scoring production) was a pleasant surprise when we pulled her up," said Ebert. "She's always been one of the people that we look to and go to and depend on. I can honestly say that she never quits, never quits on the field. She's always giving it her all and she is so coachable. If you give her constructive comments, she accepts them and tries her best to put them in play and to change that. She wants to do what's best for the team. S

"he's just a great kid and from what I can see the rest of the girls just really appreciate and respect her especially since the captains are voted on by their peers."

Roche has that 'go all out, 24/7 attitude' all of the time in sports, especially in basketball where she's been either a reserve or starting player each of the past three seasons.

She's a gamer, who never stops diving on the floor, coming up with steals and playing great defense. She said that she's always been that way.

"Growing up I have always played sports. Just whenever I get in there, I just give it my all and do what I can," she said. "I had always played soccer all the way through middle school and the travel leagues, but then my freshman year, I decided to switch and play field hockey. I knew about the sport, not a lot at first with the positions and those things but the coaches really helped me learn all of that stuff."

After coming on strong during the second half of her freshman season, Roche was one of the top scorers on the team during her sophomore year as the team missed out on the playoffs by a point. Last year the team finished 4-4 in the strange, abbreviated COVID season.

"Last year was really different with just the 7-on-7 (format)," she said. "You had to do more (on the field). The flow of the season just kept getting messed up so it was really hard to keep a constant steady momentum to the season, so that was kind of a set back. All of us just made the most of what we had and just played whenever we were given the chance."

This year the team returns just a handful of players with varsity experience, including Roche.

"We have a lot of returning people and we can be pretty strong. We have a strong senior class and then we also have two juniors so I really think that we can work together as a

close team. If we can really work together, put it all out there, we can go far (this season)," she said.

With half of the team inexperienced, Roche was asked if there's more pressure on her to score even more or if it her focus is just on finding the back of the net.

"My focus is to do what's best for the team. If I need to give the ball to someone else, I'll give it to someone else. I just want to make the most of it when I have the ball, whatever is the best option for the team," she said.

Roche mentioned that she made the switch from soccer to field hockey, but you wouldn't know it because her stickwork is pretty impressive. She said that she's had a lot of practice.

"I remember going into freshman year just coming down to the field on my own and just practice (my stickwork) and then going into sophomore year I did the same thing but with some friends."

Rita comes from an athletic family. Her dad grew up in Arlington and played basketball and "was always my coach growing up so he's always been there for me, always giving me pointers and helped me a lot." She has three older sisters, Jessica, Rose and Jill, the latter who was a three-sport athlete at WHS a few years ago.

"I learned a lot from my sisters. Our family is really involved with sports. I just learned so much from them and we were always so competitive. We are really close. I feel like the older we have gotten, the closer we have become," she said.



Senior Rita Roche will be looked upon to lead the way offensively for the WHS Field Hockey team this season. (file photo).

Golfers driving towards a successful season

FROM PG3W

athlete. He is a great baseball player and hockey player and he is a very good golfer as well," Lynch said. "He is a very solid player for us, and he just kind of took over that number one spot last year. He really started to shine towards the end of last year."

"Owen had a tremendous freshman year for us. He had a bit of a sophomore letdown last season, but that is partially because it is tough facing the cream of the crop in every match. He has come back this year and he looks good. He is a very good player and he will definitely be a factor in some matches for us."

Senior Joe Dynan will start the season on the sideline due to injury, but when he does return, he will add to the Wildcats depth at the number three position, while junior Nate Packer will slide up to Dynan's number three spot temporarily before moving back down to number four, upon

Dynan's return. Once his full lineup is intact, Lynch is looking forward to seeing what his team can do.

"Joe was injured over the summer, but he will be back and when he comes back, we will have a very competitive top four," Lynch said. "Nate will move up to the number three spot for now. As they say, next man up. And Nate has done well with that in the preseason. He is playing well and he should have a good year for us."

Heading into the second half of the lineup, the Wildcats will be led by senior captain Rhiannon Dymont in the number five slot. Dymont not only gives the Wildcats a strong presence in the bottom half of the lineup, but she will also make some history this season as the first female captain in Wilmington Golf history.

"Rhiannon is an excellent choice to be our captain," Lynch said. "She has never missed a



WHS Golf captain Rhiannon Dymont. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

match. She has never missed a practice. And she is such a positive person, so she is definitely a fitting person to be our captain. She is a steady performer for us and she is well respected by all of her teammates."

Junior Pat Stokes will return to the Wildcats' lineup and likely be their number six player, giving the team further depth at the bottom of their lineup, something at Lynch says

is very valuable.

"We expect some big things from Pat," Lynch said. "He is going to be a big key for us, because a lot of matches are won and lost at the bottom of the lineup."

Junior James Caples and sophomores Joey Galvin and Bobby Cyr will be battling for the seven and eight spots in the lineup, while senior Jack Toomey will also be trying get into the lineup via

match play during practices.

"James comes back to us with some experience, so he could be a factor or us," Lynch said. "Joey is showing some promise early on, and Bobby is going to be a good player for us once he gets some more experience. He has already won both of his matches this season against Stoneham and Wakefield."

"We would also love to get Jack into some matches this season. He is a hard worker and a great teammate."

A pair of newcomers to the team, freshman Abigail Mitchell, who is Owen's younger sister, and junior Mike Monteforte, will also be looking to contribute to the squad this year.

"Abigail shows some promise and I think she will be a big help to us down the road. She has a bright future," Lynch said. "Mike has come a long way from being on our practice squad a couple of

years ago. He has really improved, and he is just going to keep getting better."

The Wildcats have already shown some improvement early in the season. They have now played two matches on the season, a 38.5-33.5 loss to Stoneham at Thompson Country Club on Tuesday of last week and then a 39-33 loss to Wakefield on Thursday on their home course at Hillview.

While the results did not go their way, Lynch was able to take plenty of positives out of the two close losses. As mentioned above, Cyr won both of his matches, by identical scores of 5-4, and several other players also played well.

"That was two matches in a row where we scored more than 30 points, and I can't remember the last time we did that," Lynch said. "It is encouraging that we scored that many points, so hopefully that is something we can build on."



# Girls are set to kick a little tail

Soccer team  
to defend  
(shared)  
league title

By JAMIE POTE  
Sports Editor

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WILMINGTON - Despite all of the obstacles that the team had to go through last year - COVID, new rules due to COVID and an abbreviated season - the Wilmington High School girls' soccer team kept the ball rolling.

The 'Cats finished the season with an impressive 5-1-2 overall record, which was good enough for a three-way tie for the Middlesex League Freedom Division Championship title.

That title marked the tenth in the program's history, which included two from the Cape Ann League in 2003 and '04 and then seven in a row from 2011-2017.

Last year's record also made it ten straight winning seasons for the program.

Gone from that the 2020 team are six seniors, including two extremely important and talented players, Amber Flynn, who was named to the All-State team and has taken her talents to RIT and Jenna Sweeney, who was named to the Eastern Mass All-Star team. She is off to Syracuse University but not playing sports.

Wilmington will have a hard time replacing the



The tri-captains of the 2021 WHS Girls Soccer team include from left, Audrey Curdo, Alyssa Granara and Amanda Broussard. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

talent of that duo, but collectively, it can be done. The 'Cats have a roster of ten seniors, return 17 of the 22 players, including Alyssa Granara, who has 33 goals and was named to the Eastern Mass second team, and fellow senior league all-star defenders in Audrey Curdo and Kaitlyn Maguire.

Last Thursday, head coach Sue Hendee, now in his 34th season and sporting a career mark of 310-220-77, with the ten league titles and 607 games behind the bench, was asked how the team was shaping up at that early point of pre-season.

"It is early obviously and in the scrimmages that we had, I have not put a starting line-up together. It's been more of a tryout than anything

else so I have been putting people in different positions and trying different things," she said. "With ten seniors and a lot of players who last year did get a lot of playing experience even though it was a shorten season, they all look strong and there's some new talent coming up too. Our numbers are low across the board, but I think that's the case with every school."

Both Flynn and Sweeney made up two-thirds of a dynamic midfield trio with Amanda Broussard as the other. She returns as one of the three captains, joining Granara and Curdo.

Playing along with Broussard in the middle will include seniors Jenna Moore and Quinn Proulx, junior Jessica Collins,

sophomore Alyssa Ganley and freshman Jillian Collins.

Lining up with Curdo and Maguire on defense includes seniors Sofia Barletta and Madison Mulas, juniors Colleen Baldi and Cameryn Foresyth, sophomore Emily Grace and junior newcomer Cassidy Smith. Besides Granara, the frontline will include seniors Olivia Spizuoco and Kali Almeida, along with junior Ella Wingate, sophomore Molly MacDonald and freshman Callie McCauley.

Barletta and Grace may split time between defense and midfield.

"Defensively, Curdo, Maguire, Mulas and Baldi have the most experience," said Hendee. "Kaitlyn has been strong

on the outside, Madi is usually strong on the outside and the other ones can easily play either inside or outside.

"Offensively, Alyssa, Kali and Olivia have a lot of experience. I hope it's a spread-out (scoring) attack. They have looked good so far in the scrimmages. I would like to see better opportunities from the midfield. Our forwards are getting a lot of good opportunities, but I would like to see more attack from the midfield. Kaitlyn (Maguire) is doing her traditional attack down the wing and look to the middle kind of thing. I'll take scoring anyway it comes so doesn't matter to me."

The last two spots have gone to the keepers both sophomores, Ashley

Mercier and Nicole Morello.

"Ashley Mercier was the back-up last year, and then we have Nicole Morello, who is up from the JV team. Ashley played behind Tori (Gemellaro last year) and Tori being a senior, and we knew it was a limited season, saw most of the playing time," said Hendee. "We've got Shane Klingerman back as our goalie coach so that 1-on-1 attention has really taken kids who are pretty raw and has turned them into a dynamic keeper."

Usually between varsity, JV and Freshmen, there's about 60 combined kids and this year it's down to about 50.

"I'm not really concerned but we have decent numbers at the varsity level, but it's the subvarsity level where our numbers are hurting so (potential) injuries and stuff like that could become an issue," said Hendee. "The kids did the summer program, they are in shape, they are excited to play and the enthusiasm has been really good."

The season opens Friday with a trip to Belmont before hosting Reading on Tuesday. After that will be 16 additional scheduled games, with two contests each against Middlesex League Freedom Division opponents Burlington, Stoneham, Melrose, Wakefield and Watertown, one game each against Liberty foes Belmont, Reading, Winchester, Arlington, Lexington and Woburn.

In addition are two non-league games, one each with Tewksbury and North Reading.

## Academics, Athletics and Dancing: Curdo does it all

FROM B1W

dance when I was a kid and then in middle school I kind of found my love for musical theater. I started doing the spring musicals and I just really loved being on stage even though I'm a competitive dancer. I just love to be on the stage so attention on me really," she admitted with a big laugh. "I just love being on a stage and love the attention."

Ever since she can remember, Audrey said that she's always performed - whether it was as a child in the living room in front of her parents and three brothers, including twin Brian, or during school settings. She truly loves soccer, but dancing, singing and acting, is what she wants to do the rest of her life.

"I have always been performing as a kid. Even my mom has said that I have always wanted to be this positive, energetic person and I just try to spread that everywhere I go. I feel like when I'm performing, I can just get up and do that and everyone can just get joy from me doing what I love, which I love."

Besides dance and soccer, her other love is her family. Audrey's parents are both doctors, mom Noreen is an optometrist and owner of Heller Eyecare here in town and dad, Mark, is a pediatrician out of Reading, is also the town of Wilmington School Doctor and a member of the Air

National Guard, working as a flight doctor. The couple have four children, AJ, who competed in cross-country and track at WHS, Nathan, a former WHS Football and Track athlete who is attending the University of Michigan, and Brian, who plays baseball and has participated for the indoor track team.

"I love being a twin. Of course (Brian) gets on my nerves sometimes, but it's really nice. We support each other in school and this is the first time that we will be in the same class together in high school and that's really nice. We were pretty close as kids and we were like the athletic duo so it's been nice growing up together and being able to just go outside and play together," said Audrey. "The four of us are really close. I love all of my brothers and I'm the only girl. That kept me busy. I learned how to stand up for myself, but I just love them all."

Her three brothers have watched their sister dance, listened to her sing and also watched her become a very good soccer player. Last year she had a handful of games where she was absolutely terrific, and nothing got by her as the team's center-back.

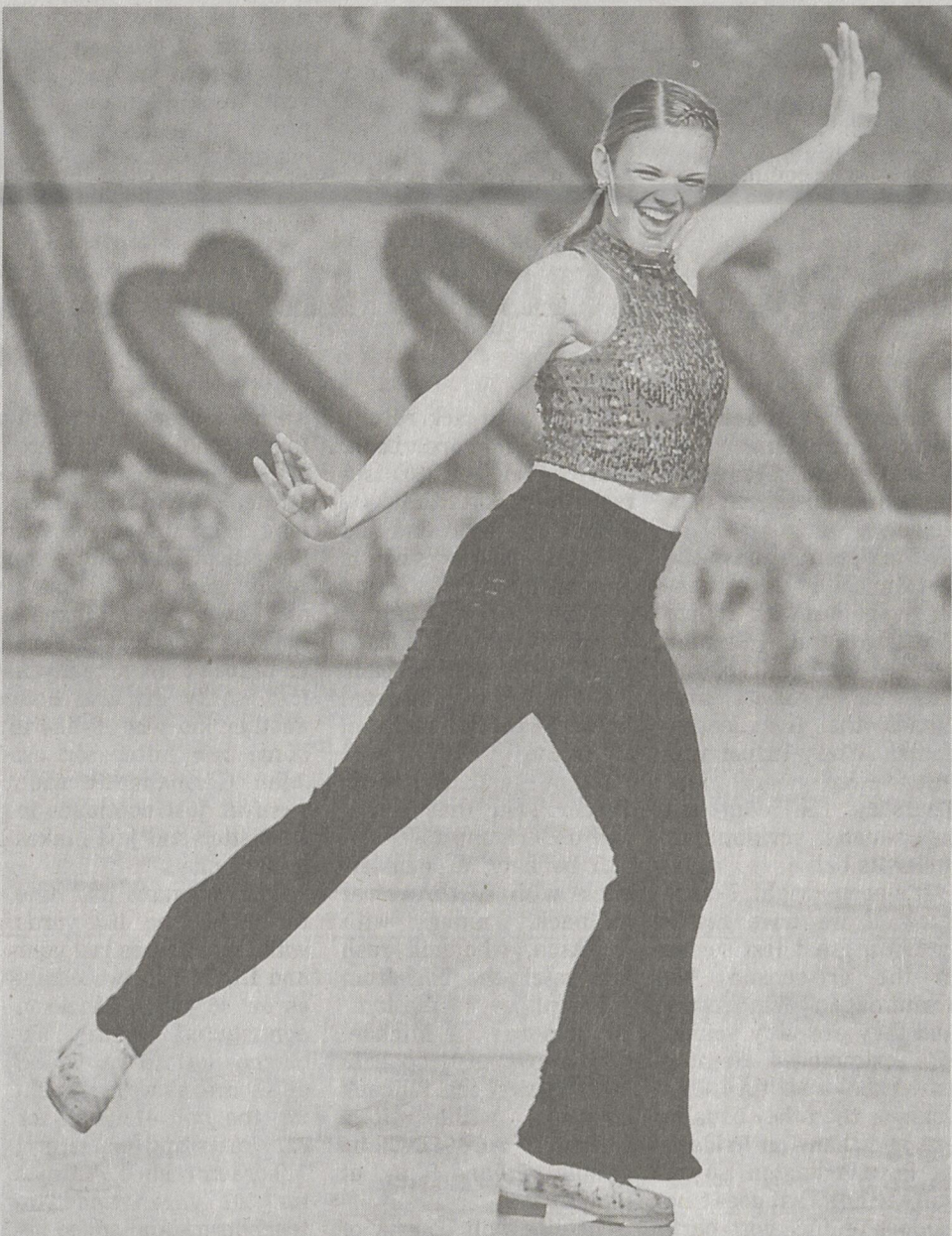
"I really don't have time to play club, but when it's soccer season, I think of it as soccer season and I focus my time on that and

I'll even go home and practice dribbling in my back yard," she said, while noting that she did participate on the cheer-leading team during the Fall-2 season. "Anything that I can do to get my feet on the ball and then when I'm at practice, I just really try to give 100 percent."

Hendee acknowledged that Curdo has vastly improved on the soccer field - she has three years of experience, she is a shut down center back, she can handle the ball and shoot with both feet, but most importantly, she became a league all-star from her incredible work ethic, as well as an extraordinary upbeat personality.

"Audrey is a four-year player and she's just a great, upbeat kid. Every single kid on the team really respects her and trusts her. Her demeanor is always uplifting and positive, but she also doesn't tolerate any fooling around because her standards are so high and that's just the way that she is," said Hendee. "I think she sets a great example for the younger kids on not only how to be positive, but to be energetic and how to work hard. She's also an outstanding student."

Once this soccer season is completed, Curdo's cleats will go in her closet. She said there won't be time to play the sport in college, but hopes she can



Audrey Curdo spends 40 hours a week as a competitive dancer in both tap and ballet, while she also has been the lead in school plays since attending Jr. High. (courtesy photo).

keep can find some time in her life to put them back on and head to a field. Until that time comes, she will concentrate on her studies, on the soccer season, all while trying to apply to performing art schools, which if anyone knows, is an extremely and some-

what impossible task.

"I have 21 schools on my list," she said with a big laugh, but noted that is par for the course with musical theater hopefuls "because the acceptance rates are very minimal. I want to get a BFA in Musical Theater. My first choice is Baldwin-Wallace

in Ohio. I want to be on Broadway and I want to perform. I also want to teach. I teach private tap lessons right now with kids and I love teaching people so if I don't get on Broadway, I would love to teach, but Broadway is my number one goal."

## WHS Baseball program to honor Joe Gillis with Bocce Tournament

The inaugural Joe Gillis Memorial WHS Baseball Scholarship Bocce Tournament will take place on Saturday September 25, with a rain date of Sunday September 26 and will be held at the Jack Cushing Courts, located at 72 Middlesex Ave in Wilmington.

Game schedule will be shared once teams are

set.

For information or to sign-up, please contact: Andrea Gillis at 978-257-7787.

The donation is \$25 per person/\$100 per Team: Venmo: @Gillis-Bocce-4WHS, Cash, Checks made out to Andrea Gillis, memo: Joe Gillis Scholarship Fund.

All proceeds will go

directly to individual \$500.00 scholarships for one applicant chosen yearly. The day will include a double elimination bocce tournament.

Sign up with a team of four or individually and be placed on a team. There will be raffles during the day, BBQ and snacks for purchase and BYOB.

Let's gather together and have some fun as we remember Joe and raise funds for our WHS student baseball athletes.

### Tournament Rules

1. Start time for game 1: 10:00am, park in Jack's driveway or at 4th of July parking lot, no street parking  
2. Arrive early but never late!

3. BYOB

4. Toast for Joe Gillis at 12:00

5. Bring cash for raffle tickets to win the following: IRobot Rumba; Three 99 Restaurant gift cards; Tremezzo gift card; The Jewelry Vault gift card; Sports Memorabilia; Round of Golf at Hillview CC North Reading; Basket of wine & scratch ticket.

6. Winner's games to 12 points and Losers games to 10 points

7. Hamburgers & hot-dogs for cash donation

8. Have Fun raising funds for WHS baseball student athletes!

9. Toast Joe!



# Rhind ready to shine in final season

FROM PG1BW

have on this team. He does so many different things for us. A lot of the kids have suggested that we move John to the backfield but they don't understand how important he is at tight end," said Turner. "He makes everything go for our offense in terms of that edge blocking. We just don't have a lot of kids with his skill set and his size and strength, and that edge and toughness that he plays with."

On Friday night, Wilmington will open the season with a very tough match-up against Woburn, a team with much more size. Certainly the 'Cats will have their hands full all game, as well as trying to move the ball. Rhind said he's confident that the offense will put up points throughout the entire season.

"In our offense, we do a scheme where we got off misdirection and it works well with our quarterback (Pedro German) because he is small and speedy. We'll definitely be good at running the ball and this summer in the 7-on-7s we were really good at throwing the ball. We think we have can a pretty dynamic offense this year. I do a lot of blocking, I run some misdirection routes," said Rhind.

He'll do the blocking for backs Marcello Misuraca and Gavin Erickson, who are two of the team's four captains along with two-way lineman Jake Chirichiello and Rhind.

"I like blocking people and I like to hit people," he said with a laugh. "I think it's fun just to run around there and be able to go hit someone. Gavin and Marcello showed a lot last season and have improved since then and they will be something for other coaches to look out. They both should be very

good this season."

Standing at 6-1 and weighing 200 pounds, Rhind will get his chance to hit people as one of the three linebackers on the team. He is joining Misuraca and then either Peter LeBlanc or Dempsey Murphy as the other one.

While offensively Rhind is the glue to hold it all together you could also say the same thing for the inside linebacker.

"John was one of those kids who was just waiting for his turn. We knew that he was going to be a really good player for us during his junior and senior seasons. Last year he was just fantastic for us as a defensive end and this year we are moving him to linebacker. He's been awesome all summer in terms of 7-on-7s and getting captains practices going with the kids," said Turner.

While Rhind has rotated between different positions on defense, and is a big part of the offense, he's also quite the leader thus far.

"He's really just a tough, physical, smart kid and he's just one of those guys who gets along with all of the kids. He's a good leader," said Turner. "We had a new kid show up the other day and he was just standing off to the side by himself and John came up to me and said 'coach, I'm going to grab a couple of the guys and we're going to welcome the new guy, is that OK?' And I said 'that's perfect. That's exactly what you want'. He's just the nicest kid and he's also a very smart kid. He's looking at some pretty elite schools in terms of colleges next year to the point where I think he would like to play football, but the caliber of schools that he's looking

at (probably takes those chances away)."

Rhind takes multiple AP classes and certainly applies himself with his schoolwork. He is currently looking at colleges such as Vanderbilt, Northeastern and Holy Cross, among others. He said that he gets that drive for academics thanks in part to his two older sisters Megan and Emma, who respectively played field hockey and lacrosse here at WHS.

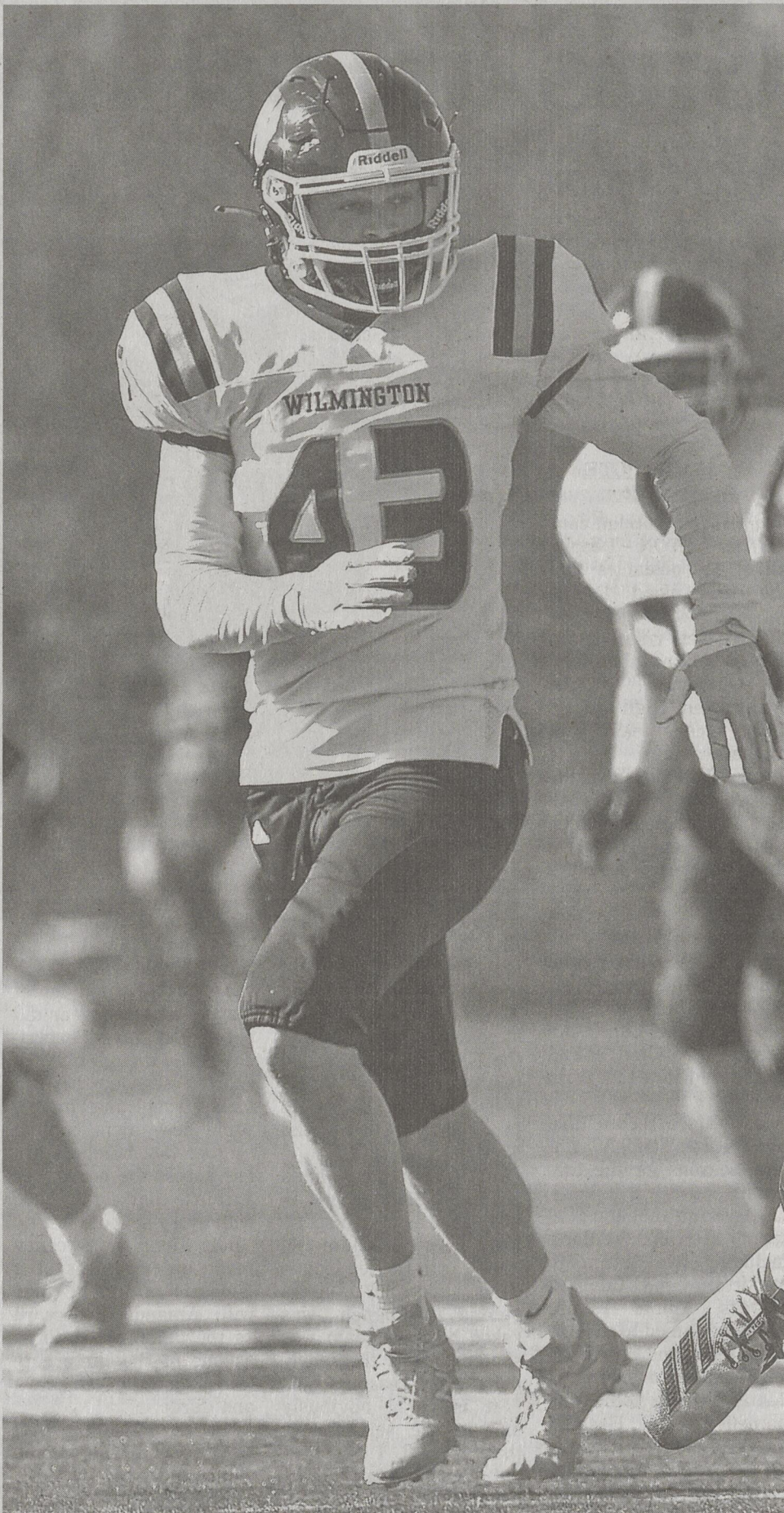
"I want to end up in the medical field to either become a physician's assistant or end up getting my doctorate," said John. "Everyone in my family except for my dad is in the medical field. My mom is a physical therapist. My sister Megan is at Vanderbilt as a nurse. She graduated from URI and moved down there in February. My other sister Emma is pre-med at Northeastern."

Growing up as the youngest of three with two older sisters, John said was a piece of cake.

"It's definitely something different. I always grew up wishing that I had a younger brother but I am the person today because of my two sisters. And it helps with the girls," he said with a big laugh. "They have definitely helped me become the person I am today."

That person today is one of the captains on this year's squad, which has high expectations after finishing 4-2 back in April.

"We have a lot of good kids, alot of returners and we also have some good young kids who have definitely been good throughout camp. I think we will be good throughout the year. We still have a lot to prove but we have the talent and the coaching staff to make a deep run in the



Wilmington High senior captain John Rhind, shown here from the Fall-2 season, will be a tight end and linebacker for the Wildcats this season. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

playoffs this year.

"I am really excited and we are definitely going to have a real good season. We will make a deep run

in the playoffs. We have a lot of work to do clearly as we're just a few weeks into the season, but if we show up to practice every

day, work hard, then we can definitely make a big impact."

## Expectations high for WHS Football Team

FROM PG1BW

the thick of it. Melrose and Stoneham are Melrose and Stoneham (as perennial league contenders)."

Wilmington opens the season with three non-league games with trips to Woburn and Greater Lowell before hosting Billerica. After that comes the five league games. When Turner was interviewed last Thursday, the team had just two scrimmages under its belt.

"It's been alright. I don't know if we have really gotten a great test so far in the pre-season. We scrimmaged Winchester and they are very young. We scrimmaged Greater Lawrence and they are younger than they usually are and then (on Friday) we have Arlington, so we will see how that goes," he said. "For the most part, we have picked up where we left off in the spring, save for a couple of new faces in a couple of new spots."

This year's team will be led by its four captains, Gavin Erickson, Marcello Misuraca, Jake Chirichiello and John Rhind. The four of them will return as two-way players. Erickson (5-11,

180) is a wingback/receiver and then a cornerback. Chirichiello (6-2, 260) is a two-way tackle, Rhind (6-1, 200) is a tight end and then defensively he is moving from his starting defensive end spot to linebacker, joining Misuraca (6-2, 195), who is back there, but is moving from fullback to halfback on offense.

As of last Thursday, Turner said that senior Pedro Germano (5-9, 160) will be back at quarterback with Misuraca at halfback, along with Erickson, who will rush and catch the ball from different formations. Sophomore Michael Lawler (6-0, 160) appears to have won the fullback position, while John Germano (5-8, 155) will be at split end and Rhind at tight end.

The line will consist of junior left guard Lucas Gorham (6-0, 260), Chirichiello at left tackle, Michael Ings (5-10, 240) at center, the combination of Adam Sulick (5-11, 200) and Ali Aboukal (5-10, 225) at right guard and Jake Malloy (6-1, 260) returns at right tackle.

"The good thing about trying to transition offensively from the spring is

we have been able to hit the ground running here in the pre-season," said Turner. "Gavin had a nice long run against Gr. Lawrence, Marcello looks really good at halfback and Lawlor I think is really going to open some eyes at fullback. He's really a fast, shifty kid and he's another kid who is like a home run hitter for us. John Germano at wide receiver just continues to get better and just makes a lot of plays."

John Germano had nine receptions for 158 yards with three scores last year and Rhind had two catches for 46 yards. Erickson contributed with six catches for 156 yards and one score, as well as rushing the ball 41 times for 227 yards and one score. Misuraca rushed 77 times for 301 yards and two touchdowns and added six catches for 56 yards and a score. Either handing the ball off or throwing to them will again be Pedro Germano. He came on towards the latter part of the season including his brilliant performance against Winchester, completing 8-of-10 attempts for 158 yards and three TD passes. On the season he completed 31-of-61 passes

for 553 yards with six TDs and just two interceptions.

"The difference between where Pedro was at the start of the Fall-2 season to now is like night and day. He's just so much more comfortable back there," said Turner.

Defensively last year, Wilmington barely gave up an inch in the early goings, and then had an outstanding game in a loss to Melrose. After that was a few steps back in the loss to Stoneham.

"The biggest issue during camp so far is our top three defensive ends have all been injured and haven't been able to play yet" said Turner. "We have been working some young guys in at that spot. Hopefully those injured

guys will be back (before the season starts). We're trending towards that direction that they will all be ready for Woburn."

When healthy, Luke Murphy (6-2, 195) and Jack Rooney (5-10, 170) will be the two ends, Chirichiello, Yvenson Jeanty (5-11, 220), who was a starter as a sophomore but didn't play in Fall-2 and Malloy will have the two tackle spots. Marcello, Rhind and the combination of Peter LeBlanc (5-10, 175) and Dempsey Murphy (5-10, 220) will be the linebackers, while Erickson and John Germano will be the two cornerbacks, Nate Rebinskas (6-0, 175) will return at free safety and Alfonso Gambale (5-11,

160), who missed the spring as he had a torn ACL, will be the strong safety.

Providing depth this year in various positions includes seniors Nick Doyle, Brady Robbins, John Spencer, Joey Cornish and Brett DeAmbrose, juniors Brett Ebert, Joey Kulman and Owen Cushing, and sophomores Hunter Sands, Julien Cella, Nick Iascone, Antonio Smolinsky, Clyde Lambert, Nojus Giniotas, Noah Spencer, Ryan Weinstein and a pair of freshmen Shane Maguire and Kenny Branley.

## New statewide alignments for football

Starting this year, in all high school sports there will be a state wide playoff system. Below are the alignments for football in Division 4 which includes Tewksbury and Wilmington, and in Division 5, which includes Shawsheen Tech.

There's 36 teams in Division 4 and only 16 will make the tournament, and there's 37 teams in D5, also only 16 will qualify.

So here's a lot of the possible match-ups should any or all of our three local teams make it.

### DIVISION 4

Amherst-Pelham  
\*Ashland  
\*Bedford  
\*Burlington  
\*Canton  
Chicopee Comp.  
\*Danvers  
\*Dracut  
\*Duxbury  
East Longmeadow  
\*Falmouth  
\*Foxboro

Grafton  
\*Greater NB  
\*Holliston  
Longmeadow  
Ludlow  
\*Malden Catholic  
Marlboro  
\*Medfield  
\*Medford  
\*Melrose  
\*Middleboro  
Nashoba  
\*Nauset  
\*Newburyport  
North Middlesex  
Northampton  
\*Pembroke  
\*Salem  
\*Scituate  
Tantasqua  
\*Tewksbury  
\*Wayland  
\*Wilmington  
Worcester South

### DIVISION 5

\*Apponequet  
Auburn  
\*Austin Prep  
Belchertown  
\*Bishop Fenwick  
\*Bishop Stang  
\*Bristol-Plymouth

Chicopee  
\*Dedham  
\*Dennis-Yarmouth  
\*Dighton-Rehoboth  
\*Diman  
\*Dover-Sherborn  
\*Essex Tech  
\*Fairhaven  
\*Gloucester  
\*Greater Lawrence  
\*Greater Lowell  
Groton-Dunstable  
Hudson  
\*Martha's Vineyard  
Maynard  
Monty Tech  
\*North Reading  
\*Northeast  
\*Norton  
\*Old Rochester  
\*Pentucket  
Pittsfield  
\*Saugus  
\*Shawsheen  
\*Southeastern  
Swampscott  
\*Triton  
\*Watertown  
\*Whittier  
Worcester Tech

\* Eastern Massachusetts schools

## Herald's Top-10 in Divisions 4+5

The Boston Herald recently released its top-10 football teams per Division. Below are Divisions 4 and 5, which include Tewksbury and Shawsheen Tech.

### DIVISION 4

1. Duxbury  
2. Scituate  
3. Middleboro  
4. Melrose  
5. Tewksbury  
6. Ashland  
7. Danvers  
8. Holliston

9. Malden Catholic  
10. Wayland

### DIVISION 5

1. Swampscott  
2. Apponequet  
3. Dighton-Rehoboth  
4. Dennis-Yarmouth  
5. Old Rochester  
6. Fairhaven  
7. Shawsheen  
8. Dover-Sherborn  
9. Whittier  
10. Greater Lawrence



## Shawsheen Tech senior running back/defensive back

## When back healthy, Timmons will provide a major boost

By MIKE IPPOLITO  
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com  
BILLERICA - Like most players in all sports last season, Shawsheen Tech senior running back/defensive back Dylan Timmons was grateful just for the opportunity to be on the field, albeit in an abbreviated, newly formed "Fall 2" season, created due to the pandemic.

As grateful as he was for the opportunity for any kind of football, however, the Wilmington native also can't hide his excitement as new football season approaches, with a more traditional season the horizon for the Rams and everyone else.

"It definitely feels good to be back. It's a lot better than last season, playing a full season, and without masks, and having playoffs and all," Timmons said. "I am looking forward to coming back and playing Friday nights, playing under the lights, having a full season and trying to qualify for the playoffs and seeing how far we can go. It is going to be a lot of fun, especially with this being my senior year."

The start to Timmons season will have to wait just a little bit longer, as a right knee injury will keep him out of the first couple of games, but when he returns, he will give the Rams a huge boost in the offensive and defensive backfield just when they need it most, as they head into the meat of their schedule against CAC opponents.

Think of it like a Major League baseball team making a huge acquisition at the trade deadline to put them over the top on their way to a push for the pennant. That is the kind of impact Timmons could have on the Rams when he returns, given his excellence on both sides of the ball, as well as on special teams.

But until he does make it back, Timmons is looking forward to seeing how some of his young teammates can perform in his place.

"It is a very frustrating to have to sit out, but it gives some of the young kids a chance to get more reps and get ready for the season," Timmons said.

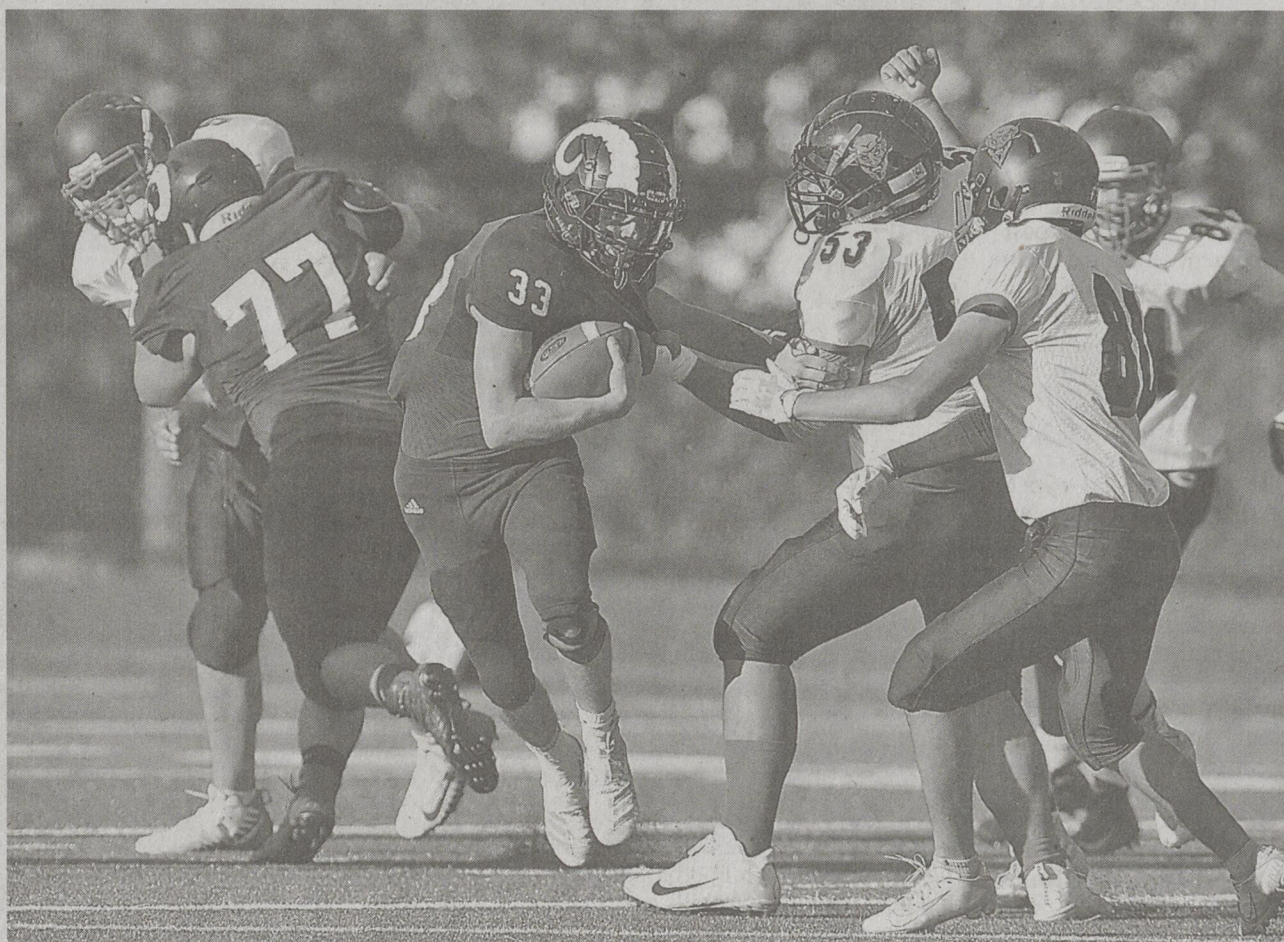
Shawsheen coach Al Costabile likes the depth that his team has at running back this season. Despite losing Timmons fellow backfield stud from last season, Diondre Turner, to graduation, the Rams do have a lot of talent at the position. But there is no denying that adding a special talent

like Timmons to the mix takes the team to an entirely different level.

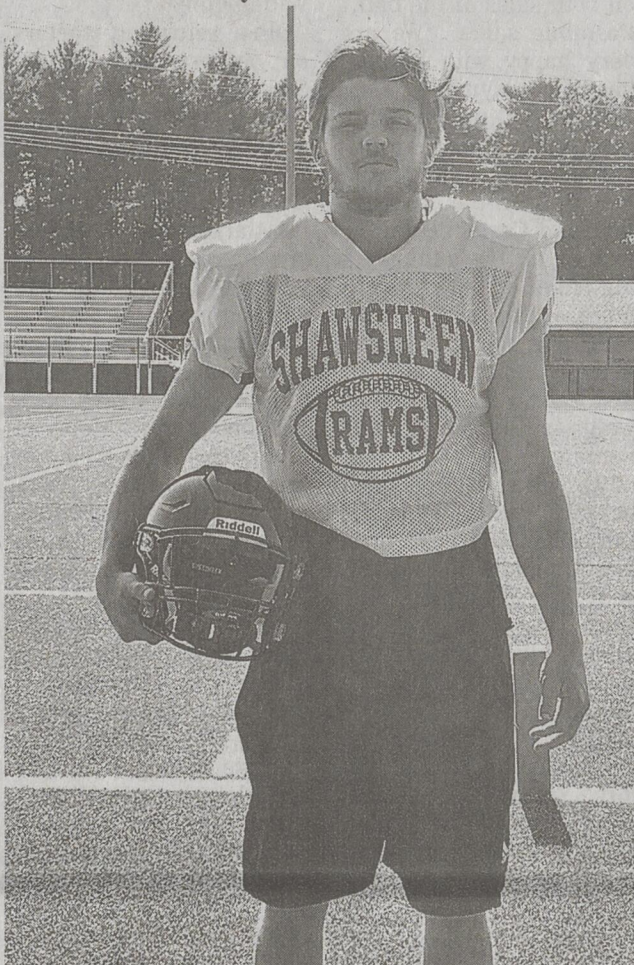
"Dylan is a very versatile football player. He has a lot of different skills and he is also a smart football player," Costabile said. "He looks at things like a coach, and he sees things that not everybody sees. He is very, very good in all three facets of the game."

Timmons most notable contributions to the Rams usually come out of the backfield, where along with Turner the past couple of seasons, he has helped give the Rams a dominant 1-2 punch.

In the Rams last full season, back in 2019, Timmons helped lead the Rams to the CAC title with 691 rushing yards and 13 touchdowns, averaging nearly nine yards per carry. But he has also shown his versatility as a receiver, stepping in to play wide receiver in the Rams season finale against KIPP Academy last season and hauling in six catches for 124 yards



Wilmington resident Dylan Timmons, shown here from the 2019 season as a sophomore, will miss the first couple of games this season as he recovers from a knee injury. (file photo).



Wilmington resident Dylan Timmons will be looked upon to lead the Rams on and off the field this season.

(photo by Mike Ippolito).

and a touchdown.

He has also made his presence felt on defense, at both linebacker and defensive back, making 45 tackles in that 2019 season, with two sacks and a fumble recovery.

Last season, splitting time between both positions, he came up with several big plays, including a key interception against Greater Lawrence in an early season game.

This season, he will likely move to a more pre-

dominately defensive back role.

"Starting with offense, he can carry the ball as much as you want and he can also catch it as a wide receiver, as he showed in the KIPP game last season," Costabile said. "He is a very gifted receiver, either playing wide receiver or coming out of the backfield."

"Defensively he did a great job at linebacker last season, and he also played some defensive

back and did a real good job there."

For Timmons, a three-sport athlete for the Rams, who also starred in the past for both the lacrosse and hockey teams, it hardly matters where he plays, as long as he is helping the Rams win.

"I talked to coach this year about playing receiver and if they want me to do that, then that's where I will play," Timmons said. "Wherever they think is best for the team. Defensively, I prefer playing defensive back, just because it allows me to see the field better and see the play in front of me. But wherever they want me to play will be fine."

Some of Timmons most exciting plays, however, have come on special teams, where over the past three seasons he has returned several kickoff and punt returns for touchdowns or long returns to put the Rams in great field position. If you have been to a Rams game at any point over the past three seasons, then you know any time he touches the ball on a punt or kickoff return, it has a chance to turn into something special.

Timmons, for his part, loves the opportunity to make something happen in the kicking game.

"Being back deep like that allows me to see the field really well," Timmons said. "So, the second I get the ball, I start running full speed, while everyone else is slowing down a little

because they are getting blocked or running into each other. So, holes start to open up and I just try to go for them."

Costabile knows he has a unique special teams weapon in Timmons.

"He has a tremendous knack for kick returns. He has that ability to see the entire field and see things happening ahead of time," Costabile said. "It is hard to coach that. As a coach, it is hard to take credit for something like that. It is just something that some players have, and that's what makes him such a threat. I would like to say I taught him that, but this young man just brought that skill with him."

Another skill that Timmons has brought with him is the ability to bounce back from injury and work to get back on the field. From a shoulder injury in his sophomore year, to back to back knee injuries the past two seasons, Timmons has still managed to miss limited time and constantly battle his way back onto the field.

"What you find out about an athlete who has had nicks and injuries each season the way Dylan has, is you find out about the resilience of that person," Costabile said. "Can they bounce back and do what needs to be done to get back on the field? Dylan has that mentality and has that ability to put in the work and bounce back, and that is what I think will happen again this season."

Timmons is obviously

looking for the same thing, and he credits his parents, Erik and Kathy, as well as Costabile for their support through his injuries.

"My parents have been great. They have never missed a game and they always push me through everything. My dad has taught me most of the stuff I know," Timmons said. "It is helps a lot to have that kind of support. Going through injuries and missing game and things like that, a lot of times you just want to quit, but going home every day and having them push me is definitely a big help."

"Coach (Costabile) has always been there for me. He is always making sure I am ok, and that everyone is safe. He gives you the time you need to recover. He never gives you a hard time over it, he just wants you to work hard and get back when you are healthy."

And when he is healthy and able to rejoin the Rams, Timmons is confident he will be joining a team that is ready to compete with the best teams in the CAC.

"I think we can be pretty good. We have a lot of skill guys coming back. We are young, but I'm not worried," Timmons said. "We have a lot of returning lineman and we have Mavrick (Bourdeau) coming back at quarterback, so I think we should be pretty solid. I can't wait to get started."

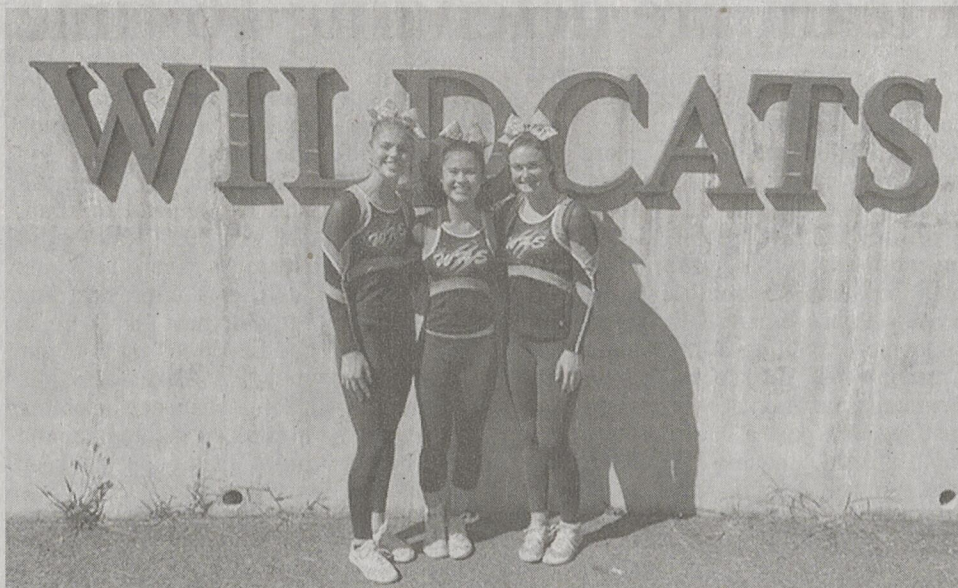
## Schedule kicks off Friday against Woburn

FROM PG1BW

eighth time in program history. This will be the first of three non-league games the Wildcats have to open the season with Greater Lowell and Billerica to follow.

This one certainly could be the biggest test - literally.

"Woburn is very, very big. They are very big, they are very physical. They have a junior quarterback who played towards the end of the spring season who can do a lot of different things," said WHS head coach Craig Turner. "I think you can make a case that they might be the best team that we face all season. In terms of height and weight across the board on the line, they are as big



The WHS Cheerleading captains for this upcoming fall season include from left, Tori Ciampa, Emersyn Foresyth and Rachel Nally. (courtesy photo)

as anyone we'll see all season. We are talking 6-0 and 250 across the board. They are very big so that will be a real good test for us in the opener.

"They are a much bigger school than us, in a higher division as they are in Division 2 and we're in Division 4 but those are the kinds of games you want to play so we're excited about that one. Then we get Gr. Lowell and Billerica for our next two non-league games before the league schedule starts."

Woburn finished the Fall 2 season with the same 4-2 record as the 'Cats did. The Tanners, under fifth year head coach Jack Belcher, have turned their offense over to Brett Tuzzolo. The 6-foot-3 signal caller was on the bench through the first five games before completing 4-of-7 passes for 69 yards and a TD in the win over Arlington in the team's final game of the season.

That was the team's only TD pass of the entire season, and before that game,

the Tanners had just attempted ten pass plays in their first five games.

Besides the threat of Tuzzolo, Woburn will look to tailback Bryan Ferreira, wide receivers Derek Dabrieo and Mazin Fayad, tight ends Gavin Nigro and Michael Doherty on the offensive side, while two-way lineman Yahya Aksadi and linebackers Jake Daniell and Derek Baccari should be playmakers as well.

## Top 20 winningest active football coaches

According to the Boston Herald, below are the top 20 winningest active high school football coaches in Massachusetts. Two of our local coaches, Al Costabile and Brian Aylward, as well as former WHS and current Stoneham coach Bob Almeida are also on the list.

1. Ken LaChapelle 375-118-6 (1976-present, Northbridge)
2. John DiBiasi 328-79-1 (1982-present, St. Patrick's, Weston, Everett, CM)
3. Jim Kelliher 290-197-7 (1974-present, Abington)
4. Jack Martinelli 279-124-5 (1982-present, Foxboro)
5. Mike Redding 269-87-3 (1988-present, Mansfield)
6. Donald Herman 242-121-0 (1985-present, Johnson, Martha's Vineyard)
7. Kevin Macdonald 229-100-5 (1982-present, Archbishop Williams, Milton Academy)
8. Steve Hayden 229-179-2 (1982-present, Pentucket)
9. Jim Pugh 208-130-0 (1989-2014, 2016-present, Masconomet, H-Wenham)
10. Al Costabile 190-122-0 (1992-present, Bishop Fenwick, Shawsheen)
11. Bob Almeida 188-106-1 (1990-present, Somerville, Wilmington, MC, Stoneham)
12. Joe Lang 186-188-7 (1975-present, MC, Milton Academy, Middlesex)
13. Chuck Adamopoulos 184-74-0 (1997-present, Central Catholic)
14. Tim Morris 183-93-4 (1994-present, Melrose)
15. Jeff Cormier 178-72-0 (1999-present, Auburn)
16. Greg Burke 177-133-4 (1990-present, Stoughton)
17. Mike Dubzinski 175-120-0 (1994-present, Natick, Wachuset)
18. David Woods 174-80-0 (1998-present, Bishop Fenwick)
19. Brian Aylward 165-99-1 (1997-present, Tewksbury)
20. Steve Dembowski 162-80-0 (1999-present, Swampscott, Milton)



# On the gridiron, Rams expecting to contend

By MIKE IPPOLITO  
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**BILLERICA** - This past high school football season was an unusual one in many ways, not the least of which was when it was played. With the postponement of the traditional fall season to due to COVID, the season, for those who were able to play, was held in the newly created "Fall 2" season which kicked off in March of this year.

Another unusual aspect of the season locally was how the season played out for the Shawsheen Tech Football team, who after winning three out of four Commonwealth Athletic Conference championships between 2016 and 2019, struggled to a 3-4 record in the abbreviated 2020 (2021) season.

Obviously, a losing record did not sit well with either the Rams players or coaches, who have established a winning tradition over past several seasons, and they will be looking to bounce back from that, beginning this Friday night when they hit the road to take on non-league rival Bedford in their season opener.

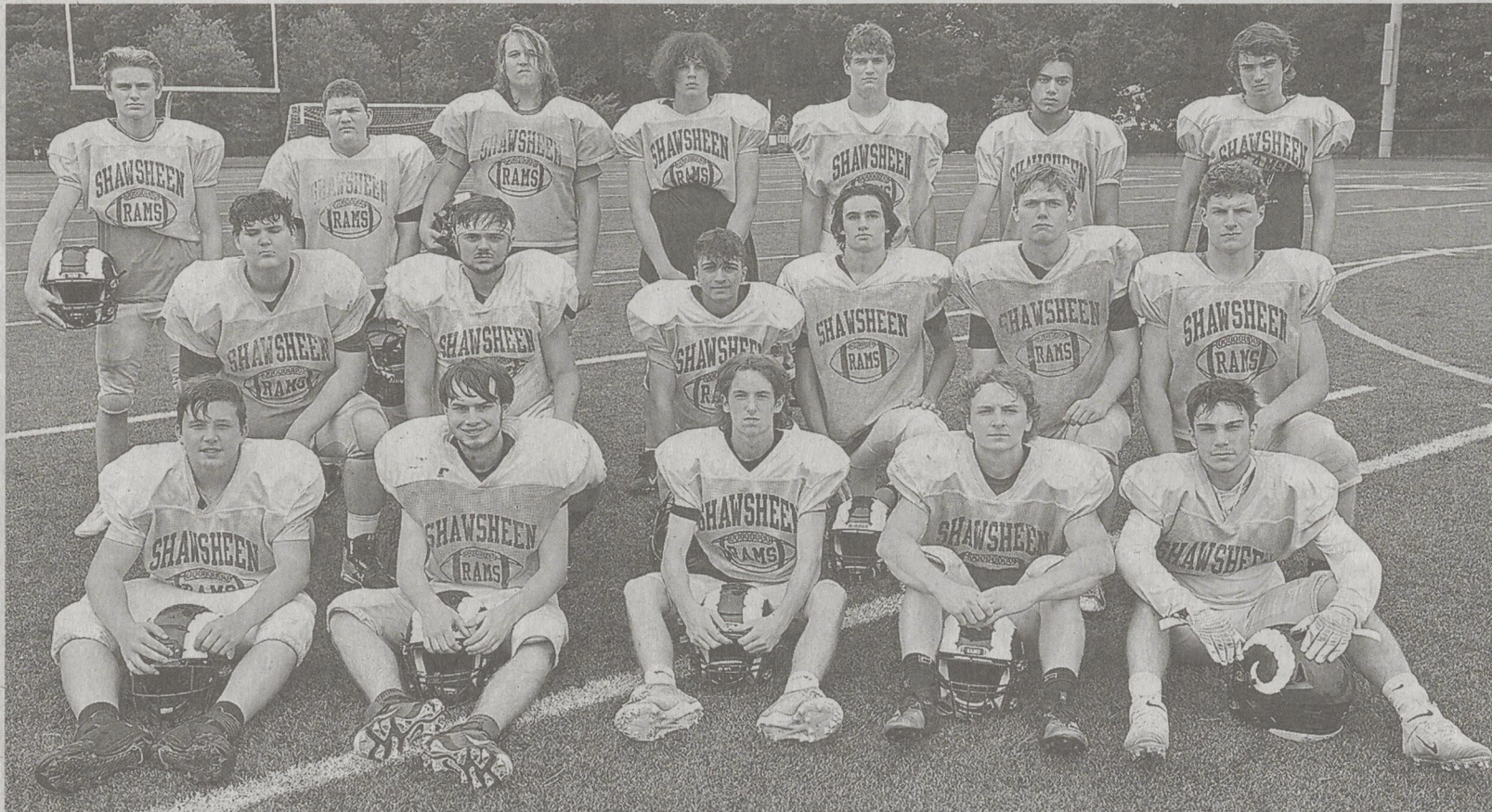
Shawsheen head coach Al Costabile, entering his 24th season at the helm of the Rams, knows that his players are eager to get back on the field and re-establish themselves as contenders in what promises to be a very challenging CAC this season.

"It is a real talented league this year and it is very balanced, but I think we can make a run at it," Costabile said. "If we can progress the way I think we can and get off to a good start in our non-league games, I think we can make a run at it once we start league play."

"We have a great opportunity to do that, and it is nice to have that confidence because the kids have done it, and know that players before them have done it. They go into the season expecting that even if they don't win the league, they will challenge for it."

The Rams do lose some key offensive weapons from last season, with leading rusher Diondre Turner, as well as two-year starting quarterback Chris Disciscio both having graduated, but there is plenty of reason for optimism, as they also bring back a talented core of returnees on both sides of the ball.

One of the biggest reasons for Costabile's optimism is junior quarterback Mavrick Bourdeau.



The Shawsheen Tech Football program includes many Wilmington residents including: sitting from left, Zachary Blonigen, Mason Glover, Derek Maguire, Aydan Churchill, and Benjamin Andrews Jr.; Kneeling from left, Aiden Martin, Jay Zanelli, Jason Marrone, Ryan Copson, Shane Costello, and Ryan Dusablon; And standing from left, Jared Bishop, Nick Spencer, Aaron Dancewicz, William LaMonica, Zach Rogers, Jake Warford and Kevin Ackerley. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

Bourdeau made his varsity debut last season in the second half of the Rams season finale loss to KIPP Academy, and gave a glimpse of his potential. More importantly, however, the Rams coaching staff has had two years of watching him develop at the JV level, and Costabile is confident that Bourdeau, a three-sport star for the Rams can make the successful leap to varsity.

"Mavrick didn't get a lot of experience at the varsity level, but he was the freshman QB and the JV QB, so his learning curve accelerated tremendously," Costabile said. "He is a great all-around athlete, and great three sport athletes really don't exist anymore, but he has done a great job with both baseball and basketball. He's got the ability to run as well as throw. We are looking forward to seeing what he can do."

Bourdeau will be joined in the backfield by a talented group of running backs. Three-year starter, senior Dylan Timmons of Wilmington, will likely lead the way for the Rams once he returns from injury a few weeks into season, but until he makes his return, Costabile is confident with a large committee of talented backs carrying the load.

Among the players battling for playing time will be Wilmington senior co-captain Aydan Churchill, who saw some playing time last season in the backfield. He will be joined by a talented group

of underclassmen, including sophomores Damian Ortiz and Mason Morneau, both of Tewksbury, as well as fellow sophomore Caleb Gaceres of Billerica.

"Aydan has some experience, which will be a big help and we have some other talented kids as well," Costabile said. "The running back situation is very competitive and encompasses a lot of players, probably half a dozen or more. But that is great. We have plenty of depth at the position, and a lot of good young players."

With a solid stable of running backs, it is possible the Rams will just grind their opponents with their ground game, but as Costabile said, Bourdeau does have the ability to put the ball in the air. And when he does, he has a talented group of wide receivers to throw to, starting with sophomore Evan Galanis of Tewksbury and fellow sophomore Zach Rogers of Wilmington.

"Evan is a very promising player on both sides of the ball. On offense he is really molding into a great slot receiver. He is not the biggest kid, but he has some quickness," Costabile said. "Zach is more of a physical wide receiver type. He is over six feet tall and has big range. He is very promising."

Fellow sophomore Ryan Copson of Burlington will also be making his mark as a receiver for the Rams.

"Ryan is another player

who looks very promising on both sides of the ball," Costabile said. "We are very happy with how he has been playing."

Of course, nothing happens with the skill position players without protection from the offensive line, and Costabile will be looking for them to play a big role on this year's team, beginning with returning starters, sophomores Richard Elliott III and Austin Malandin, as well as senior Xavier Santiago.

"We will rely upon them heavily this season," Costabile said. "Elliott and Malandin started last year as freshmen and were very dependable, and Xavier Santiago has gotten himself into the mix as well."

Also leading the way up front will be a pair of seniors from Wilmington, Shane Costello and Ryan Dusablon, both of whom made the move from the offensive backfield to the offensive line.

"The two of them very unselfishly made the move to the offensive line," Costabile said. "They both moved down from being fullbacks to the line, and it really helps us out, adding a little experience and some senior leadership to the offensive line."

Defensively, the Rams will be led by many of the same players, with Timmons eventually returning to his defensive back position when comes back from injury, where he will be joined by returning outside linebackers Costello and jun-

ior Kevin Ackerley of Wilmington.

Other returning starters on defense will include Santiago, Elliott and Mandalin along the defensive line and Churchill at linebacker, while Bourdeau will return to his starting role at defensive back.

Joining them on defense will be some promising newcomers, including Rogers at defensive end, Copson at defensive back and linebackers Morneau and Ortiz. While many of the newcomers have shown great promise, Ortiz has stood out for his efforts in early season workouts.

"His brother (Edwin) was a great player for us at center, and Damian is a very promising young player," Costabile said. "We are looking for him to get a lot of playing time."

One thing the Rams will not lack for this season will be depth. Whereas some teams are senior laden, and some are loaded with underclassmen, the Rams are fortunate to have both. They do have a very deep and talented sophomore class, but one of the things Costabile is most looking forward to this season is getting contributions from his entire roster. While the Rams have not named captains as of yet, Costabile feels his team will be in good hands under the guidance of his senior leaders.

"I think we have a good balance across all grade levels. We have good senior leadership and a real good, talented group of

younger players," Costabile said. "I feel confident that all four grade levels will be represented."

The Rams are going to need all the talent they can get as they head into what promises to be a challenging CAC schedule. The good news is, there is a full schedule of games this year, however, it is a schedule that will force the Rams to be at their best at all times.

"It is going to be a tough, tough league this year," Costabile said. "Northeast will be tough, and Whittier is always a tough opponent for us. Greater Lowell is going to be strong this year, and Lowell Catholic will be good as well. It is a very strong league."

While it will be a challenge, it is a challenge that Costabile and his fellow coaches and players are looking forward to. Not only are they looking forward to putting last season's losing record behind them, they are also looking forward to having a somewhat 'normal' season.

"It is great to be back to normal, with precautions of course," Costabile said. "The kids love it. They understand the precautions, but mostly they love the fact that they are outside participating in sports. We are getting back to the normalcy kids love, and they deserve it. We are going to have some fun."

## Tee it up! Rams Golf team are defending 16-time champs

By MIKE IPPOLITO  
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**BILLERICA** - It seems that everything was different in the world of high school sports in 2020. Between COVID restrictions, abbreviated (or canceled) seasons, rule changes, or what have you, the entire year had a different feel to it. Nothing seemed to be the same.

With all of that change, it was nice then, to see at least one thing remained the same, as the Shawsheen Tech Golf team once again took home the Commonwealth Athletic Conference. It was the 16th consecutive league crown for the Rams, all under the direction of head coach Tom Struthers, who enters his 17th season as the Rams coach.

Playing in an abbreviated season, the Rams posted a perfect 10-0 record, playing exclusively against CAC opponents, and only a few of them at that, as several CAC teams were forced to cancel their seasons.

"We did very well and we

were very happy to win the league again," Struthers said. "It was a good season, but I was hoping for a better year for our seniors. Not in terms of how much we won, but I was hoping they would have a better finish with being able to play in post season tournaments and things like that. Those guys were not only great players, but they were great kids as well."

Indeed, the Rams lost six seniors to graduation, with Steven O'Connor, Aiden Sullivan, Nolan Rexford, Sean Murphy, Connor Preble and DJ DuCharme all having moved on from Shawsheen.

Their departures will obviously leave a big void in the Rams lineup, but as much as the Rams will miss those seniors, Struthers feels like they have some very competent replacements moving into this year's lineup.

"This team is young, but we have some really good, talented players," Struthers said. "We have had some time to play together and to get on the

course and see what we can do. We seem to be getting better and better with every practice."

One of the players who Struthers will be counting on most this season, and one that has shown the most improvement is sophomore captain Matt Tramonte of Tewksbury. Tramonte came on a fresh last season a just a freshman, steadily moving his way up the lineup, and Struthers is looking for even bigger and better things from him this season as he moves into the number one slot in the lineup.

"When we were looking for a captain, after all of the kids we lost, we were not necessarily looking for our best player, but for our best leader," Struthers said. "When it came time to pick our captain at the end of last season, the kids picked him. Matt is definitely going to lead our team in scoring, there is no doubt about that. And he is also going to become a great captain."

"It sounds like a cliché, but he honestly just wants to get better and better. His game has gone from

shooting a 42 to shooting a 37. He is just a sophomore, but as far as golf goes, he is just so mature."

Playing in the number two position for the Rams will be another sophomore Liam Milne, while sophomore Sean Schlehuber will likely slide into the number three slot in the lineup.

"At the start of tryouts last season, Liam was shooting in the 50's, but by the end of the season he was shooting 41's and 43's. He made some great improvements, and he is going to be a strong player for us," Struthers said. "Sean didn't score very well for us last year, but he had a strong desire to get better and he came back this year and has been doing very well. He shot a couple of rounds in the low 40's, so if he could do that this season, it would be very good for us."

The rest of the lineup is still a bit of a work in progress, but one player that Struthers knows he will definitely be counting on is another sophomore, Brendan Lee, while sopho-

more Colin Lawson is also making a push to crack the lineup.

"Brendan has some talent. He can kill the ball, but it is just a matter of putting it where he wants to. He is improving and he will most likely be in the lineup for most of our matches," Struthers said. "Colin has been shooting around 46, 44, and 42, and he is just going to keep getting better."

A pair of seniors, Kyle Brouillette and Andrew Gettneri will also be looking to make their way into the lineup.

"They can both be very good players, and we would like to see them do well," Struthers said. "It would be great to have that kind of senior leadership in our lineup."

At the other end of the spectrum, the Rams have five freshmen who will also be looking to contribute, including Derek Nazarro of Tewksbury.

"Derek can hit the ball really well, and he has come up with some fantastic scores," Struthers said. "He has already been scoring in the low 40's, and he is just going

to get better."

The other four freshmen on the roster have also flashed some signs of great potential. Freshman Tyler Tsoukalas has been averaging around 41 or 42 in practice, never shooting a round over 45, while Aidan Fortunado, a transfer from Billerica High, has also been putting up some low scores, as have Adam Priest and Mike Giordano.

The roster may be young, but it is deep, which is probably why Struthers has not adjusted his team's goals for this year. With the return of post season play this season, Struthers is looking to see the Rams make their mark in those tournaments.

"We want to win the league and we want to place in the top three in the State Vocational Tournament. I think we can also win that," Struthers said. "And then we would like to do well in the state sectionals as well. I think this group has the potential to do that."



## Shawsheen Boys Soccer Preview

# Memorable season in the past, time to move forward

By MIKE IPPOLITO  
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BILLERICA - Just how great was last season for the Shawsheen Tech Boys Soccer team? Let's put it this way, if it happened in a movie you would walk out saying, "so unrealistic. That could never happen."

Imagine the scenario. The entire world battling through a pandemic, a team coming together throughout a wildly successful season, finally clinching the league title in the final game of the season, while also delivering a legendary coach his 400th career win in that same game. "Couldn't happen."

Except that it did happen.

The Rams posted an 8-1-1 record in their COVID-19 shortened season, clinching the CAC title with a 3-0 win over Essex Tech in the season finale at Cassidy Field, handing coach Tom Severo the 400th win of his tremendous career at Shawsheen and at Billerica High.

Even Severo had a tough time believing it at times. But he also knows it is time to move on from one of the most memorable seasons of his long and storied career.

"What an absolutely wonderful year. Playing under the COVID restrictions and all of the obstacles, to think we did as well as we did, to win the league, and get my 400th win," Severo said. "It was just a magical season the entire way. Last year was great. Those were great kids and it was a lot of fun, but that is all done now. Now we have to move forward."

And the Rams will be moving forward with Severo still at the helm, as

he returns for his seventh year at Shawsheen. It may have been tempting to hang up the whistle after last season, but why quit when you are having so much fun?

"My son told me I should retire. Retire on top. He said, you won the league, you won your 400th, you could just retire," Severo laughed. "But I am still enjoying this too much."

After losing eight starters off of last year's team, including both goalies, this season's squad will have a much different look than the past couple of seasons, with several new faces and new places. But Severo believes that he and the players are ready for the challenge.

"You are basically starting over to a large extent, but that's just the way it happens in high school sports. It's the natural evolution. Kids graduate, and then you have new kids, playing in new roles," Severo said. "Coaching is a little bit different this year. We just spent an hour in the locker room with masks on, so I could do some chalk talk, because there are things these kids don't know yet, like our style of play and that kind of stuff. Those are things we didn't have to do last year."

If you think that Severo has lowered the expectations for this year's group of Rams based on losing so many players, you would be very mistaken. The return of the MIAA (statewide) tournament this season makes that a goal for the Rams, as does the quest to repeat as CAC champions.

Severo knows it won't be easy, but he also knows it is something his team can accomplish.



The Shawsheen Tech Boys Soccer program will include many Wilmington residents this season including front row from left, Patrick Tassone, Joshua Haerer, Lincoln Levesque, Jack Bourque, and Kaleb Molina; Back row from left, Jason Spaniol, Ryan Quamme, John Gibbons, Evan Pinto, Oliver Ferrer, Frankie Grieco and Layne Coutu. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

"High achievement takes place in the framework of high expectations, so we have high expectations," Severo said. "We are going to be a young team obviously, and we will be playing a lot of tough teams this year. There is no break in the schedule, but we have high expectations for ourselves."

While Severo was still working on his exact lineup at the time when spoke to the Town Crier, there were several players even at that point that he knew would be relying on heavily this season, including his five team captains made up of two seniors and three juniors. The senior captains, both from Tewksbury, will be forward Jeremy Perez, a CAC All-Star last season, along with goalie Tyler Kopacz, who has the unenviable task of replacing the duo of Tyler Newhouse and Adam Kearns, both of whom were outstanding in net for the Rams in recent

years.

Severo knows what kind of leader he has in Perez, who was also a captain with the Rams basketball team this past winter.

"He was the starting point guard on the basketball team, and he fulfills the same role on the soccer team. He can distribute the ball and shoot the ball and do whatever we ask," Severo said. "We can play him all over the field. This year I think he will be a center/midfielder, but really he is capable of playing any position. He has great balance and great ball skills. He is tenacious and he is strong. And even though he is not a real big kid, he is very solid and hard to move off the ball."

The rest of the CAC may not know about Kopacz yet, but Severo predicts that they will know all about him before this season is over.

"This kid is going to open some eyes. Yesterday, he just took

command of the game in our scrimmage. He is fast, he is decisive, and he is very athletic and acrobatic at the same time," Severo said. "I am very excited about this kid. He is going to keep us in a lot of games. He is a big reason for my optimism."

Shawsheen will also have three junior captains, with midfielders Evan Pinto and Noah Rizzo of Tewksbury, along with defender Cam Camelio stepping into leadership roles.

"They have been with the team a couple of years and have done a good job for us," Severo said. "They are solid players and good leaders."

Other members of the Rams battling for playing time will be senior Zach Haumann, juniors Quinn Brown and Tyler Francois, both of Tewksbury, John MacEachern, Tom Robenek and Joe Woodward, along with sophomores Brian

Duhamel and Josh Haerer of Wilmington and freshmen Ethan Melanson, Jayden Perez of Tewksbury and Nico Georgoulis.

This year's Commonwealth Athletic Conference schedule will be much tougher than last season's so Severo will be looking for his entire roster to contribute against what promises to be tough opponent in every game.

"There are no easy games this year. Lynn Tech is going to be very good, as will Northeast. Two years ago, when we only lost three games out of 18, two of those losses were to Northeast," Severo said. "Mystic Valley has been ranked in the top 20 in the Globe the past few years. Greater Lowell has always given us a tough time. We beat them by just a goal last season."

"Every team we face is going to be good, but we are looking forward to the challenge."

## Work ethic the key to success for inexperienced girls soccer team

By MIKE IPPOLITO  
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BILLERICA - It is simply a fact of life in high school sports that every year, every team in every sport loses players to graduation. That is why it is high school sports. Some years, obviously, more players graduate than other years, but it is what it is, as coach Belichick would say.

Coaches simply understand this and deal with it, because there is not much else you can do.

However, it is unlikely that most coaches have ever dealt with the mass exodus that Shawsheen Girls Soccer coach Doug Michaud is dealing with as he enters this season, having lost 15 seniors and nine starters off of last

year's squad that went 4-4 in their condensed, pandemic induced, schedule.

Those numbers are a little skewed, of course, because with the pandemic and everything else that went into last year's crazy season, Michaud probably had a larger roster and certainly more seniors, than he normally would. However, with that being said, losing 15 seniors is still losing 15 seniors. And losing nine starters is most certainly still losing nine starters.

Still, you won't find Michaud complaining about his losses. He is instead choosing to look ahead at what he still believes will be a successful season.

"A lot of the kids we lost were very key players, but

we lose players every year. You can't really say it is a rebuilding year, because every year we have a new team," Michaud said. "We are just trying to look at it like everybody has lost players and has a new team this year. Now, we just have to figure things out with our new team."

One of the first things that Michaud and the Rams had to figure out was how to replace a pair of talented goalies from last year's team, having lost both Isabella Manning and Shelby Bourdeau to graduation. It will be no easy task, but stepping into that role will be freshman keeper Sydney MacPherson of Wilmington.

"Sydney has talent, and she has some experience,"

Michaud said. "She is good with her positioning and she is good at catching the ball, so we will what she can do. She is only going to get better as she gets more experience."

The Rams lose quite a bit, but they do bring back some talented players as well, including junior midfielders Caitlyn Aprile and Kerry Brown, along with sophomore midfielder Riley Rourke.

"We will be strong in the middle of the field," Michaud said. "The three of them started quite a few games and saw a lot of playing time last season and they did well. Riley, in particular, progressed very well as just a freshman as the year went on."

Up front the Rams will

be led by returning starter, junior forward Lindsay McCarthy, as well as newcomer Judith Sloman, a freshman.

"Lindsay has great speed, and she never seems to get tired. She really came along towards the end of last season, so we are looking for her to be even better this season," Michaud said. "Judith has been playing very well for us so far."

With an inexperienced goalie, it is more important than ever that the Rams have a solid defense, and thanks to the presence of senior Ella Malvone of Wilmington, along with junior Brielle Pigott, the Rams have just that.

"It is great to have the two of them back," Michaud said. "They will

be very important to us this season."

Malvone will also serve as the Rams lone captain, a role that Michaud says she is perfectly suited for. "Ella has just such a great, positive attitude," Michaud said. "She is great at keeping the spirits up on the team. And she never quits. She is just a great kid, and she will be a great captain."

Juniors Makayla Melanson of Tewksbury, along with Kelsey Giordano, will both return to the Rams soccer program this season. Melanson saw some time with the varsity last season, while Giordano primarily played JV, but both players will provide this year's varsity squad with the kind of versatility the Michaud wants.

"Makayla has been playing well in tryouts. We have used her as sort of a utility player for us. It is great to have someone who is so versatile," Michaud said. "Kelsey played some defense and midfield last year with the JV team. She gives us some dependability and experience on defense."

Three freshmen, Skylar Driscoll of Wilmington, Kendra Minghella of Tewksbury, along with Kailyn Harless, will round out the Rams roster.

So, as the Rams head into this season, there are plenty of unknowns with so many new players, but Michaud feels like his team may surprise some people.

"There are some parts of this team that could be even better than last year," Michaud said. "I wouldn't count us out. We have some good young players and some good returning players as well. I think we can be pretty good."



The Shawsheen Tech Girls Soccer program will include 13 Wilmington residents including kneeling from left, Skylar Driscoll, Arianna Farrell, Ella Malvone and Riley Rourke; Back row from left, Tara Clark, Sydney MacPherson, Alyssa Costantiello, Celia Vindice, Kaytlyn MacPherson, Morgan Glover, Madeline Long, Lorraina Raposa and Emerson Glover. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).



## Shawsheen Tech Boys Cross-Country Team Preview

## Returning runners have some pretty big shoes to fill

## Rams preparing a season without Smith and others



The four members of the Shawsheen Tech Boys Cross-Country team who reside in Wilmington include from left, Logan Pyles, Danny Watne, Donald Alphonse and Connor Pyles. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

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**BILLERICA** - With a 3-3 record last season, the Shawsheen Tech Boys Cross Country team went toe to toe with some of the best teams in the Commonwealth Athletic Conference, picking up some big wins along the way, while also narrowly missing out on a couple of other potential wins.

The Rams will be hoping to improve on that .500 record this season, but it will be no easy task after losing their top three runners from last year's squad, with Alex Smith, Paul Tower and Sam Quattrocchi all having graduated, with Smith moving on to run for Suffolk University.

On the positive side for the Rams, while they lose their top three runners, they bring back a solid core of runners from last year's squad, each of whom has improved in the off season and will be looking to fill the very large shoes left behind by the departed tri-captains.

Led by senior Joe D'Ampolo of Tewksbury, along with fellow Tewksbury senior Adam Ippolito, junior Ben Hollenbeck and senior Victor Lam, the Rams will be looking to their depth to pull out some wins this season.

While Shawsheen coach Pat Kelly knows that replacing the high end talent will be very difficult, he likes what his returning leaders are bringing to the team in the early going.

"I don't think it is possible to replace that kind of talent. They were great. They were some of the top runners in the league," Kelly said. "But we bring back a good group, starting with Joe, who had a very good season last year. And Adam came into camp in great shape, as did Kevin Ippolito (no relation) as well as Victor Lam. So, we have some guys who trained hard over the summer and definitely look good now. Ben Hollenbeck is another one who worked hard in the off-season."

Hollenbeck is coming off an outstanding spring track season, where he was among the Rams top two milers, and the Rams coaching staff will be looking to see him continue that trend in cross country.

"Ben has come a long way," said assistant coach Dan Dirazio. "We will see how he holds up during the season, but I only expect him to get better as the season goes on."

The Rams also have several other returning runners they will be looking to get contributions from, including sophomore Will Biscan of Wilmington, as well as the Pyles brothers of Wilmington, with senior Connor and sophomore Logan also expected to chip in some points. Senior John Zembeck will also be counted aid the Rams cause.

Several young new runners will also be counted on as the season goes on,

including sophomore Danny Watne of Wilmington, freshman Jason Lombardi and sophomore Joseph Lombardi, along with freshmen Noah Brooks and Sean Morgan, all of whom are from Tewksbury.

"We have a lot of kids who are new to it, but they are adapting. We have only been practicing for a week, but we have been impressed with what they have been able to accomplish," Kelly said. "They are sticking with it. They are staying headstrong, and overcoming the pain and newness of the sport. There is a lot of potential there."

D'Ampolo, Adam Ippolito and Lam will serve as tri-captains for the Rams, and Kelly is confident that if the rest of the team follows their example, they will perform very well.

"Joe is a natural leader. The second you talk to him, you just know. He is always asking, how can I help, and what can I do to make myself better and the team better," Kelly said.

"His leadership style is so infectious. He circulates among the kids, especially the underclassmen," Dirazio added. "He goes out of his way to make them feel welcome, which is so important."

Ippolito and Lam have also shown themselves to be fine leaders in the early going of the season.

"Adam and Vic both had their struggles freshman year, and even sophomore year. But the two of them lead by example. 'What do you need coach?' 'Yes sir'. What can I do for the team? Who can I help?," Kelly said. "When I announced the captains, as I told the rest of the kids, these guys weren't the best on the team as freshman, but they are going to work their butts off to become the best they can be. You will see when you watch them that they are going to be great leaders for us."

"When you talk about team leaders, these guys are a great example," Dirazio added. "They just don't quit. They are always there for us. Whatever you need, they are willing to do it."

With several tough teams on the Rams schedule, Kelly will be looking for not only his returning runners, but for his entire roster to step up their game this season.

"Essex is usually good and Greater Lawrence always has a strong boys team," Kelly said. "Greater Lowell and Lowell Catholic will also be good, so the schedule will be a challenge. We're hoping to get off to a fast start. Right out of the gate we have a tough matchup with Whittier on Wednesday (results unavailable as press time), so we will take it one meet at a time."

"That's how we will look at it. We know Whittier will not roll over for us. They are going to be a big challenge. Like any team we are looking to start off with a win."



The captains of the Shawsheen Tech Girls and Boys Cross-Country teams include from left, Kaylee Gaffney of the girls teams, Joseph D'Ampolo, Victor Lam and Adam Ippolito of the boys team, and Devin Sweeney, also of the girls team. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

## Girls running towards bigger goals

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**BILLERICA** - The good news for the Shawsheen Tech Girls Cross Country team is that they are coming off another winning season, having gone 4-3 in last year's COVID abbreviated campaign.

The better news for the Rams is that they bring back several of their top runners from that team, and they will be looking to make another run at a winning record, with even bigger goals in sight.

The Rams do lose one of their top runners from last season in captain Rachael Halas, along with solid contributors like Emily Pinto and Kelley DeLosh, but they bring back several runners who consistently put up points for them last season.

Leading the way among those returnees will be senior Devin Sweeney, who joined the team for the first time last season and almost immediately established herself as one of the Rams top runners. By the end of the season,

she had also established herself as one of the top runners in the league.

But she is not alone at the top of the Rams lineup, as she will be joined by fellow senior Kaylee Gaffney of Tewksbury, along with senior Sandra Watne of Wilmington, as well as junior Hannah Lyle. Shawsheen coach Pat Kelly likes what he sees at the top of the lineup for the Rams.

"Devin is excited about the season, and we anticipate she will be among the top five runners in the league, and Kaylee trained all summer and has been running well as have Hannah and Sandra," Kelly said. "So, we have four girls we know can perform well, and then beyond that, we are kind of young, so we are looking for the five through seven girls to kind of step up and develop."

Among those that Kelly will be looking to step up as the season goes on will be senior Caleigh Shanahan of Tewksbury and sophomore Hannah

Lam, along with a trio of freshmen, Anna Andacic, Autumn Halas, and Ayla Thissell.

"Some of the girls are really new to running, but we are happy with what we are seeing so far. But the reality is they are inexperienced," Kelly said. "They are getting their experience right now. But we are pretty optimistic that they are going to do well and we are excited to see what they can accomplish."

Gaffney and Sweeney will serve as the Rams co-captains, and Kelly feels like his team is in good hands with these two veteran runners leading the way.

"Kaylee is a four-year member of the team. As a freshman she was not really a standout member, and the same thing as a sophomore, but she always showed up and worked hard," Kelly said. "But she trained hard last year and trained hard over the summer and came into camp just in great shape, so we are really encouraged for

what she can do. She may not lead vocally, but she will definitely lead by example."

"Devin just started with us last year, but by the end of the year she was one of the best in the league," Kelly continued. "And then she trained all summer and came into camp in great shape and could be even better this year. She is another one, who is also kind of quiet, but we know will lead by example."

While the Rams have their sights set on a league title, Kelly knows it will not be easy, with a stacked CAC schedule in front of them. But that will still be their goal.

"Essex will be good again, and Lowell Catholic was good last year, so we would expect them to be good again. Greater Lowell is always a good team," Kelly said. "We have a tall task if we want to be champions, but we will be giving it our best shot."

## Wilmington Travel Basketball League announces tryout schedule

Wilmington Travel Basketball is excited to announce our plans for tryouts for the 2021-22 season! Tryouts will be held at the Wilmington Middle School during the weeks of September 13th and September 20th. There will be two sessions for each grade. All players trying out will be required to register online before the tryout. You can register on Wilmington Travel

Basketball's website at [www.wilmbtb.org](http://www.wilmbtb.org).

All players are required to attend one of the two tryout sessions and it is highly recommended to attend both tryouts. If a player is unable to attend a tryout due to injury, please send an e-mail to WTB President, Joe Maiella at [josephmaiella@gmail.com](mailto:josephmaiella@gmail.com).

Boys and Girls teams play in competitive

leagues against teams from neighboring towns and cities. The season begins in early November and ends in early March. Teams will practice two nights per week during that time with most games on weekends.

The tryout schedule is as follows:

Monday 9/13  
6:00 - 7:25 PM - 4th and 5th Grade Girls

7:35 - 9:00 PM - 8th Grade Girls

Tuesday 9/14  
6:00 - 7:25 PM - 4th and 5th Grade Boys  
7:35 - 9:00 PM - 8th Grade Boys

Wednesday 9/15  
6:00 - 7:25 PM - 6th Grade Girls  
7:35 - 9:00 PM - 7th Grade Girls

Thursday 9/16  
6:00 - 7:25 PM - 6th Grade Boys  
7:25 - 9:00 PM - 7th Grade Boys

Monday 9/20  
6:00 - 7:25 PM - 4th Grade Boys  
7:35 - 9:00 PM - 8th Grade Boys

Tuesday 9/21  
6:00 - 7:25 PM - 4th Grade

Girls  
7:35 - 9:00 PM - 6th/7th Grade Boys

Wednesday 9/22  
6:00 - 7:25 PM - 5th Grade Girls  
7:35 - 9:00 PM - 8th Grade Girls

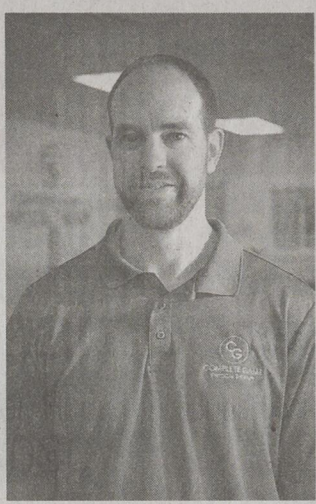
Thursday 9/23  
6:00 - 7:25 PM - 5th Grade Boys  
7:35 - 9:00 PM - 6th/7th Grade Girls



# How to optimize your workouts this fall

By GREG CROSSMAN  
Guest Columnist

Well summer is over, and fall is here. Though it's always tough to see summer end, one thing that is nice about the fall is everyone getting back into routines. The kids getting back into school and work schedules getting more settled often allows us time to get into a consistent workout routine. We often see patients in our physical therapy clinic who started running, lifting weights or a new exercise class but got injured. Whether they over did it, or their workout just wasn't right for them, these injuries are preventable. Here are 5 reasons to con-



GREG CROSSMAN

sult a physical therapist before starting a workout program.

**You Want a Baseline**  
When you see a physical

therapist to improve your fitness, you'll get an assessment of your strength, range of motion, posture and movement patterns. This not only helps your physical therapist design a customized program just for you, it gives them a baseline to compare things to in the future should you start having pain or suffer an injury.

**You Want Expert Guidance**

Sure, other professionals could help with your fitness routine, but the fitness industry is not well regulated. Some certifications just require an online course and paying a fee. There are no licens-

es or other requirements to use many titles. Becoming a physical therapist requires at least a bachelor's degree and most PTs practicing today have a doctorate. Every PT has passed a national board exam and maintains a state license. That guarantees you that every physical therapist is a verified expert in human movement.

**You Want to Prevent Injury**

Physical therapists don't just work to heal injuries, they are also experts in preventing them. After a thorough assessment, a PT can help you design a program that will not only help you reach your fit-

ness goals, but that can address any issues that increase your risk for injury.

**You Want Unbiased Advice**

Yoga instructors will want you to do yoga. Personal trainers will want you to come to their gym. Pilates instructors will want you to do Pilates. Strength coaches will want you to strength train. A physical therapist doesn't have a bias or vested interest as to what type of fitness regimen you choose. They are only interested in helping you reach your goals.

**You Have a History**

If you have some kind of history that affects your

ability to exercise, a PT is the best person to help you design a fitness regimen. It doesn't matter if it's an old injury from athletics or work, back pain that comes up from time to time, COPD, arthritis or heart disease, a PT can help you safely work around it and meet your fitness goals.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about seeing a physical therapist for a movement assessment you can reach Greg Crossman DPT from Complete Game Physical Therapy at [gcrossman@completegamept.com](mailto:gcrossman@completegamept.com) or call 978-710-7204.

## Vallas, WSU Men's Soccer team, get the call to the Hall of Fame

The Worcester State Athletics Hall of Fame has announced that the 2001 Men's Soccer Team has been selected into this year's class. The team made history nearly 20 years ago by capturing the program's first-ever MASCAC title before stunning #3 Williams in the first round of the NCAA Tournament to advance to the Sweet-16. Williams entered the game with a record of 15-1 on the season, and had advanced to the Elite Eight the season before, but was stunned by arguably the biggest upset in the history of athletics at the University. The team would go on to lose in the Sweet-16, however the victory still remains the only NCAA Tournament win in program history. The

squad tied a program record that season with 15 wins, finishing at 15-3-3.

Former Wilmington High star and Hall of Fame Athlete Justin Vallas, who earlier was inducted as an individual to the Worcester State Athletic Hall of Fame, was a member of that 2001 team. During his four-year career, the Lancers were a four-time Conference Championship Team. During his soccer career at WSC, Justin was a three-time All-Conference All-Star, two time All-New England Team Member, Two time Team MVP, 2003 Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference (MASCAC) Leading Scorer, and 2003 MASCAC Player of the Year.



The North Shore Vipers U13-1 Girls Hockey Team skated in the North American Hockey Academy (NAHA) 21st annual Labor Day Showcase up in Stowe, VT. The NAHA Labor Day Showcase is an invite-only event that is attended by the top U14, U16, & U19 girls teams across North America. The U13-1 Vipers skated in the U14 Tier I Division against teams like the Washington Pride, Mid-Fairfield Stars, Vermont Dynamo Hockey Academy, Massachusetts Spitfires, and the Alaska North Stars. The Vipers have five locals on their team, Julia Lambert, Shae Gould, and Gianna Young from Wilmington; and Lydia Barnes and Lyla Chapman from Tewksbury. The team includes bottom row from left, Cecilia Riff, Morgan Linskey, MJ Petisce, Merritt Fitch, CJ Tremblay and Lydia Barnes; and back row from left, Lyla Chapman, Julia Lambert, Shae Gould, Chloe Sullivan, Samantha Toomey, Gianna Young, Kate Glantz, Janie Martin, Michele Caiazzo, Victoria Hausberger and Lucy Irwin.

(courtesy photo).

## Herb Chambers

It's Time To Trade Up!

## HONDA

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2012 Ford Focus SEL Sedan H210931, Auto., Blue, 60K miles	\$8,998
2012 Honda Fit HP7202, Auto., Silver, 91K miles	\$10,498
2017 Hyundai Elantra SE Sedan H210848, Auto., White, 80K miles	\$13,698
2015 Honda Accord Sport Sedan H210837, Auto., White, 83K miles	\$16,798
2011 Honda CRV EX-L AWD H210928, Auto., Silver, 35K miles	\$16,998
2014 Honda Accord Hybrid Sedan H210900, Auto., White, 73K miles	\$17,498
2019 Toyota Corolla LE H210735, Auto., Red, 35K miles	\$17,698
2016 Honda Civic EX-L Nav. Sdn. H220077, Auto., White Orchid Pearl, 67K miles	\$17,998
2017 Honda Civic LX Sedan HP7188, Auto., Black, 43K miles	\$17,998
2018 Honda Civic LX Sedan H220014, Auto., Modern Steel, 38K miles	\$18,498
2019 Honda Fit LX Hatchback H220040, Auto., Black, 23K miles	\$18,698
2018 Honda Civic LX Sedan H220036, Auto., Silver, 33K miles	\$18,698
2017 Honda Accord Touring V6 H210832, Sedan, Red Pearl, 102K miles	\$19,698
2015 Audi A3 Quattro H210898, Auto., White, 47K miles	\$20,998
2016 Kia Sorento EX AWD HP71991, Auto., White, 49K miles	\$21,498
2019 Honda Civic Sport Sedan H220016, Auto., Black, 33K miles	\$21,998
2019 Honda Civic Sport Sedan H220048, Auto., Silver, 29K miles	\$22,498
2018 Honda Accord LX Sedan H210882, Auto., White, 14K miles	\$22,698
2018 Honda Accord EX Sedan H210912, Auto., Modern Steel, 31K miles	\$24,998
2018 Honda Clarity Sedan HP7187, Auto., Crimson Pearl, 14K miles	\$24,998
2014 Lexus ES 350 Luxury HP7157, Auto., Gray, 33K miles	\$24,998

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2018 Hyundai Kona Ultimate AWD HP7183, Auto., Thunder Gray, 14K miles	\$25,998
2019 Honda CRV LX AWD H210820, Auto., Basque Red Pearl, 12K miles	\$26,798
2019 Honda CRV LX AWD H210883, Auto., Platinum White, 24K miles	\$26,898
2018 Honda CRV EX AWD H210753, Auto., Crystal Black Pearl, 43K miles	\$26,898
2018 Honda CRV EX AWD H210903, Auto., Gunmetal, 43K miles	\$26,898
2020 Honda CRV LX AWD HP7191, Auto., Obsidian Blue Pearl, 12K miles	\$26,998
2017 Honda Civic Sedan SI H2198161, 6 Speed, Crystal Black, 35K miles	\$26,998
2018 Honda Accord EX-L Sedan H210891, Auto., White, 22K miles	\$27,898
2018 Honda Pilot EX H210263, Auto., Black, 34K miles	\$28,998
2018 Honda CRV EX-L AWD H220076, Auto., Modern Steel, 25K miles	\$28,998
2019 Honda CRV EX AWD H210902, Auto., Gunmetal, 27K miles	\$28,998
2019 Honda CRV EX AWD H210875, Auto., Black, 13K miles	\$29,998
2018 Audi A4 2.0 Quattro HP7126, Auto., Premium Plus, White, 33K miles	\$29,998
2019 Honda CRV EX-L AWD H210911, Auto., Crystal Black, 14K miles	\$30,998
2018 BMW 3 Series GT 330Xi H210081, Auto., White, 30K miles	\$32,998
2019 Honda Pilot EX-L H220083, Auto., Deep Scarlet, 28K miles	\$36,498
2020 Honda Pilot EX-L H210845, Auto., Modern Steel, 12K miles	\$38,498
2018 Mercedes E300 AWD H210896, 4Matic, White, 31K miles	\$40,998
2019 Honda Pilot Elite AWD H210915, Auto., 20" Wheels, Black Pearl, 17K mi.	\$41,998
2020 Subaru Ascent Ltd. Tech. H2200241, Auto., Magnetic, 12K miles	\$42,498

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 2018 Audi Q5 Premium A7599, Brilliant Black, 33K miles **\$31,998**

 2018 Audi Q7 Premium Plus M041190A, Orca Black Metallic, 41K miles **\$42,998**

 2019 Audi Q5 Premium A7602, Brilliant Black, 34K miles **\$37,898**

 2021 Audi A4 Sedan S-Line A17604, Mythos Black Metallic, 3K miles **\$38,998**

 2016 Buick Encore Premium M014287A, Rosewood Metallic, 63K miles **\$17,998**

 2017 Jeep New Compass Latitude A7613, Diamond Black Crystal, 42K miles **\$19,998**

 2021 Audi Q5 Premium M033095C, Navarra Blue Met., 6K miles **\$45,998**

 2016 Chevy Silverado 2500HD A7457A, Black, High Country, 42K miles **\$51,998**

### MANAGER'S SPECIALS

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#M022549B

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### 2020 Audi Q5 Premium

 Glacier White Met. • 10K miles  
#A7549

**\$43,998**

### 2020 Audi Q3 Premium Plus

 Mythos Black Met. • 17K miles  
#A7566

**\$38,998**

### 2019 Audi A4 Premium

 Glacier White Met. • 49K miles  
#A7562

**\$29,998**

### 2020 Honda Accord Sedan LX

 Plat. White Pearl • 33K miles  
#A7546A

**\$24,998**

### 2019 Audi S4 Premium Plus

 Glacier White Met. • 17K mi.  
#A7572

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### 2021 Audi Q5 Premium Plus

 Manhattan Gray • 4K miles  
#A7554

**\$50,998**

### 2018 Audi SQ5 Prestige

 Moonlight Blue Met. • 18K miles  
#A7570

**\$48,998**

 2018 Audi Q5 Tech Prem. Plus A7621, Florett Silver Metallic, 33K miles **\$35,998**

 2018 Land Rover Range Rover M035392A, Santorini Black, 42K miles **\$49,998**

 2018 Audi Q3 Premium Plus A7624, Florett Silver Metallic, 29K miles **\$29,998**

 2018 Nissan Rogue SV M111159A, Gun Metallic, 22K miles **\$23,998**

 2021 Audi A4 Sedan S-Line A17632, Prem. Plus, Gray Pearl, 6K miles **\$43,998**

 2018 Audi A4 Tech Prem. Plus A7636, Mythos Black Metallic, 46K miles **\$29,498**

 2016 Chevy Trax LT M153740A, Silver Ice Metallic, 79K miles **\$14,498**

 2018 Audi Q5 Tech Prem. Plus A7641, Mythos Black Metallic, 49K miles **\$33,998**

 2019 Audi S5 Sportback A7642, Prem. Plus, Florett Silver, 31K mi. **\$54,998**

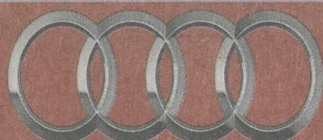
 2017 Subaru Impreza Limited M007244A, Ice Silver Metallic, 47K miles **\$21,998**

 2018 Audi Q7 Prestige A7645, Florett Silver Metallic, 50K miles **\$48,998**

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101K miles  
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 Horizon Blue,  
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### 2019 Kia Sportage LX AWD


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32K miles  
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### 2019 Kia Sportage LX AWD


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#14090A  
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#K3146XX  
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### 2016 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4


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80K miles  
#13921B  
**\$24,998**

### 2019 Kia Sportage EX Tech


 Sparkling Silver  
14K miles  
#14106A  
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### 2020 Kia Optima SX


 Snow White  
12K miles  
#K3169  
**\$28,998**

### 2018 Toyota Rav 4 Hybrid SE


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28K miles  
#14101A  
**\$31,998**

 2020 Kia Sportage LX AWD 14012A, Auto., Pacific Blue, 35K miles **\$21,998**

 2018 Kia Optima EX Tech. Pkg. 14133A, Auto., Horizon Blue, 11K miles **\$23,998**

 2016 Acura RDX Tech. Pkg. 14140A, Auto., White, 33K miles **\$24,998**
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 2018 Audi Q3 Sport Premium 14061A, Auto., Cortina White, 30K miles **\$28,998**

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 2017 Mercedes-Benz CLA250 134773A, Auto., Black, 24K miles **\$29,998**

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## Tewksbury Police Log

### Male party picked up for shoplifting, drug possession

Monday, August 30

1:53 a.m. - A 911 call for a dispute between roommates at Ames Hill Drive. Caller stated her roommate locked her out of the apartment. Caller was able to gain entry back into the unit and an altercation occurred between the caller and roommate. Police sent. Male party left for the night and filed a report.

12:55 p.m. - A 911 caller stated male party took a \$350 drill at Home Depot. Police sent. Angel Perez, 33, of 100 Willie St. in Lowell, was arrested and charged with shoplifting by asportation, possession class A fentanyl drug, failure to stop for police, shoplifting by asportation, possess class E Xanax drugs, and shoplifting by asportation.

4:08 p.m. - Male party dug through the trash in a red shirt acting suspicious at Senior Center. Police sent. Male was gone on arrival and was asking for a cigarette but had left the scene.

They checked the area.

Tuesday, August 31

2:55 a.m. - The police were flagged down by an employee stating they could see flashing lights in the back lot at Home Depot. Police sent. Vehicle was parked in the back towards Motel 6. Male party was taking a nap after his last door dash delivery.

2:34 p.m. - Front desk at Fairfield Inn reported a male acting strange came in to the lobby to get something and appeared disheveled. Male got in a vehicle and left by Wendy's in an unknown direction. Police sent to check the area. Chelmsford police department was notified, and the police spoke with the operator's ex who stated that the operator was intoxicated and possibly heading home. Units checked the area. Officer filed a report.

8:27 p.m. - Employee at Oakdale Liquors reported an intoxicated male that they refused to serve got

into a vehicle and was last seen driving northbound on Main Street. A 911 call from the clerk at Smitty's Liquors reported that party was now inside the store attempting to purchase alcohol. Police sent. Jeffrey Coombs, 66, of 42 Delaney Drive in Tewksbury, was arrested and charged with the second offense of OUI liquor.

Wednesday, September 1

3:57 a.m. - Police out at Oscar Pinata's with a suspicious motor vehicle. Police sent as back up. Male party checked out and was waiting to go to work.

5:49 a.m. - Caller from State Street reported his mailbox was hit. Police sent. Damage was done to the pole. National Grid notified. Officer filed a report.

3:25 p.m. - Caller reported an erratic driver at Shawheen Street and Ballard Street. The caller was no longer behind the erratic driver. Police sent and then spoke with the hus-

band who stated that the wife came home and swapped cars and was heading to work in Boston. She appeared fine.

Thursday, September 2

1:22 p.m. - The manager of Circle K requested assistance with a no trespass notice for a female party who attempted to shoplift earlier this morning. She was just outside now walking down Andover Street. Police sent. Sabrina Castro, 29, of 110 Westford St. in Lowell, was arrested and charged with shoplifting resisting.

8:45 p.m. - Caller reported and erratic driver at Main Street. Police sent. Kimberly Labossiere, 55, of 1 Edelman Road in Wilmington, was arrested and charged with fourth or greater offense of OUI liquor, negligent operation of motor vehicle, possession of open container of alcohol in motor vehicle, and motor vehicle lights violation.

Friday, September 3

12:47 a.m. - A 911 caller reported a male party knocked at his door claiming to be maintenance at Old Boston Road. Police sent. Parties were spoken with and they were going to set up a time for maintenance to handle the repairs.

3:02 p.m. - Caller reported her brother was intoxicated and kept trying to get his keys at Chapman Road. Police sent. They confirmed the party had calmed down. They filed a report.

9:36 p.m. - A 911 call for a male party intoxicated and broke a glass bottle along with a glass front door at Sky Box Sports Bar. Police sent. Lowell Police Department requested an additional unit. Police arrived on scene and noted the male entered a black pickup truck and headed towards Lowell. Employee does not believe the male intentionally broke the glass. Employee would follow up with the male tomorrow.

Saturday, September 4

2:26 p.m. - A 911 call from the Berkley Street for a male party who was threat-

ened and possibly swung at. Police sent. They escorted the caller back to the station and went over paperwork. No assault occurred and officer filed a report.

Sunday, September 5

1:05 a.m. - Police out at McDonalds North checking on a vehicle in the parking lot. They reported vehicles appeared to have been parked there for a while and were locked and secured.

11:38 a.m. - Caller reported that someone egged her house and vehicles parked at Algonquin Drive. Officer filed a report.

7:56 p.m. - Police out with the attached vehicle with parties walking through the lot of Atamian Honda. Parties looking at vehicles.

10:37 p.m. - A 911 caller stating that there was a disturbance at Circle K from an ex-employee. Police sent. The female drove off in a blue sedan and possibly a Honda. Police responded to room 304 of the extended stay where the female party may reside. They cleared the area and no contact with the parties.



## Wilmington Police Log

### Reading resident busted for drug possession

Friday, August 27:

12:52 a.m.: Kenneth C. Downey of 116 Rutland St. in Dover, New Hampshire was arrested for OUI - Liquor. This followed reports of erratic driving in which his grey 2014 Toyota Corolla swerved and almost struck another vehicle. The vehicle then eventually pulled into the Shell Gas Station on Middlesex Avenue, where it was towed and its operator taken into custody.

8:05 a.m.: Meaghan E. Meaney of 9 Long Wood Dr., Apartment #3 in Andover was issued a summons for Operation of a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License. This followed a motor vehicle collision between a green 2020 Jeep Grand Cherokee and a black 2018 Nissan Pathfinder on Main Street with no injuries. Both vehicles pulled into the parking lot of Triton Car Wash following the collision.

10:35 p.m.: Keith Anthony Crupi of 6 Nason Terrace in Woburn was arrested on Warrant All Others. This followed a report by state police that a red 2005 Toyota Camry was disabled on the I-93 Overpass on Concord Street.

Saturday, August 28:

11:55 a.m.: Police assisted the Fire Department on Woburn Street after a confirmation that an alarm was caused by a cooking fire, resulting in the evacuation of two parties.

2:34 p.m.: A caller on Dorchester Street report-

ed that a vehicle almost struck her while she was walking her dog the previous night. They reported that the vehicle in question was moving at a high speed and was a grey truck.

10:14 p.m.: A walk-in party reported that they saw a skinny blond white woman in her late teens to early 20's walking on the Route 125 Highway Overpass, appearing to be running from a black Ford Explorer. Police checked the area, but found nothing.

Sunday, August 29:

1:34 a.m.: Police reported that a port-a-potty was knocked over at the Boutwell School on Boutwell Street. A report was faxed to the Department of Public Works.

7:01 p.m.: An ongoing property dispute continued on Belmont Avenue as neighbors disagreed on whether a property line and lattice fencing were attached to a fence. Police made sure the scene was clear, but a female party came to speak with an officer at the station.

Monday, August 30:

9:49 a.m.: A rabid raccoon was reported as attempting to bite a Verizon worker on Cambridge Road in Woburn. Animal Control officers were called out, but found the animal gone on arrival. Woburn police arrived on the scene and updated their dispatch.

12:52 p.m.: A caller on Catherine Avenue report-

ed that she believed a murder hornet was present on her property.

3:04 p.m.: A report was given of three juveniles playing on the train tracks at the MBTA North Wilmington Station on Middlesex Avenue. Police looked along the tracks, but were unable to find any juveniles, even checking nearby Elia's to no avail.

Tuesday, August 31:

3:58 p.m.: A motor vehicle collision occurred between a grey 2013 Toyota Highlander and a grey 2016 Chrysler Town & Country on Adams Street and Church Street. It was reported that airbags were deployed and therefore two hooks were requested. Police eventually reopened roads, had both vehicles towed, and arranged for a juvenile to be transported via the fire department.

5:40 p.m.: Michael A. Bowman of 30 Haven St., Apartment #4001 in Reading was arrested for Possession of Class A Drugs. This followed reports of a white man in all black clothing attempting to hitchhike on Woburn Street and Elm Street.

7:05 p.m.: A caller reported that three teens were sitting at a picnic table at Town Hall on Glen Road and smoking marijuana. Police advised the teens of public consumption and told them that they would be cited for loitering or use of marijuana.

Wednesday, September 1:

1:20 a.m.: Police were off with a group of parties in a grey 2008 Honda Accord who stated that they had money stolen from them. Later, police discovered the money, totalling \$352, had been found at CVS on Main Street. The cash was then returned without incident.

8:35 a.m.: The Housing Authority on Deming Way reported that the air purifier system had been taken from their main complex.

9:39 p.m.: A caller reported that they had received a call from their friend in Jersey City in New Jersey about 10 minutes prior in which they stated that their car was filling with water and they were panicking. Police contacted the number the caller gave them, where they found that the female party was driving along and gotten stuck in some water without seeing anything around her. Police advised her to keep her windows slightly open and attempt to get her bearings before the call disconnected. Wilmington police contacted their counterparts in New Jersey and attempted several more calls that disconnected before the woman got back and said she had been helped.

Thursday, September 2:

1:36 a.m.: A tree was reported down across Federal Street, blocking the roadway. Police attempted and succeeded at moving the tree to the side of the road, informing the DPW later in the morning.

6:48 a.m.: A caller on Linda Road reported that the Water Department had fixed a pipe leading to their house the previous week, but said pipe is leaking into their house. Water Department personnel were notified and a foreman was scheduled to reach out to the homeowner.

6:35 p.m.: A caller reported an ongoing incident of road rage at Aldrich Road and Shawheen Avenue. The caller reported that the operator of a grey 2006 GMC Sierra had passed him the previous day and now flipped him off today before turning into Market Basket plaza. Police spoke to both parties and advised them to avoid each other and report any reckless conduct.

## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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2			5			6		
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9/8

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### HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

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NOIHTS

### ACROSS

- 1 — Clayton Powell Jr.
- 5 Hotel entrance
- 10 Parts with
- 12 Like most letters
- 13 Hit the sack
- 14 Spuds
- 15 Inventor's spark
- 16 Teachers' org.
- 18 Buzz
- 19 Own up to
- 21 Not even once
- 25 Email status
- 29 Romance, in Venice
- 30 Laid off from work
- 32 Rock climber's aid
- 33 Feminine principle, to Jung
- 34 Home turnover
- 37 High school subject

### DOWN

- 38 Mopes
- 40 Round veggie
- 43 Narrow inlet
- 44 Low voice
- 48 Weak, as an excuse
- 50 Harley competitor
- 52 Dangled
- 53 Hardy or Cromwell
- 54 First sign
- 55 Perfect place
- 1 Parroted
- 2 Calendar information
- 3 Libretto feature
- 4 Cousteau's domain
- 5 Pasture
- 6 Pledge
- 7 Cheese choice
- 8 Grassy shoulder
- 9 Fabric meas.

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10 — Lanka	31 Rather or
11 Broadcast	Aykroyd
12 Gravy spot	35 Attracted
17 Big bird	36 Wallace or
19 Boxing	Lilly
20 Prelims	39 Boxing win
21 Fabric	40 Lowly
22 Bahrain	41 Congers
23 Pull the lever	42 Having the means
24 Winged god	44 Among
26 Ms. Ferber	45 Wash
27 Got off the plane	46 Not now
28 Moore of "G.I. Jane"	47 Boathouse item
	48 "Alice" waitress
	49 Permit
	51 Yeasty brew

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
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9-8

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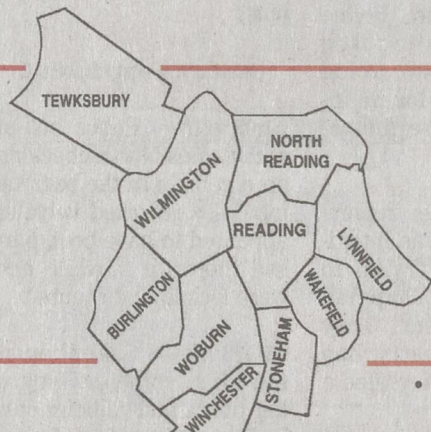
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Local News  
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## Stoneham Water and Sewer Review Board - under review

By PAT BLAIS

No one likes to pay more for water and sewer services.

But in Stoneham, where divided town officials several years ago commissioned a special audit to investigate the propriety of expenditures from its water and sewer departments, skepticism still runs deep when it comes to the rationale for cost increases. So when Town Administrator Dennis Sheehan in the late spring announced the typical Stoneham homeowner could expect their annual water and sewer bills to climb by \$126, the Town Hall executive anticipated some pushback.

Yet while Sheehan has largely managed to quell citizen suspicions about the genesis of the latest bill hikes, new questions have arisen about the effectiveness of the town's Water and Sewer Review Board.

A citizen advisory panel

that is supposed to be serving as a watchdog over water and sewer department expenditures, the five-member Water and Sewer Review Board is supposed to host at least one meeting annually to discuss rates before they are set each year by the town administrator.

However, for three consecutive years now, the advisory board, struggling with chronic absenteeism and high turnover rates, has failed to hold that public hearing.

Various town officials, including Select Board member Raymie Parker and Stoneham Finance and Advisory Board Chairman Tim Waitkevitch, have since called for reforms to the advisory board's charge or a disbandment of the decades-old government body.

"No disrespect to anybody who's giving their time to a committee, but this is the second or third year in a row that they've not been able to come together," said Parker after re-

ceiving word about the rate increases last May. "I think we need to have a bigger conversation about what we do with that board to get it going again."

"I don't know what the sentiment of this board is on reforming, changing, or eliminating the Water and Sewer Review Board. But I do think there's interest on the Select Board in taking a look at this," Waitkevitch remarked during a subsequent Finance Board meeting in Town Hall discussion this July.

At Waitkevitch's suggestion, the Finance Board last month appointed two members to a special subcommittee charged with determining whether to reform the water board or disband it entirely.

Hoping to sit down with Sheehan and Select Board members, the ad hoc group was initially asked to prepare a final recommendation before this October's Special Town



Meeting.

However, Finance Board member Wendy Smith, who has resisted calls to dissolve any government entity that was created by Town Meeting, has since reported that the conversation will take much longer than initially thought.

"Whichever way it goes, whether its keeping [the review board] and getting it staffed or deciding it's no longer needed, we're all very

open to figuring it all out," said Smith in advocating for a slower and more deliberative debate over the future of the advisory panel.

Water and sewer charges

Though Stoneham's town administrator retains exclusive control over setting water rates each year, the Water and Sewer Review Board's role was thought to at least give voice to citizens by giving residents an

opportunity to voice concerns about proposed increases during a public hearing each year.

The board, which consists of two citizen designees from the Finance Board and three from the Select Board, could also refer any objections to rate increases to their appointing bodies.

Prior to this spring, the inability of the Water and Sewer Review Board to meet over the previous two years had been largely ignored because the town administrator had been able to freeze water and sewer rates during the first few years of his tenure. But that all changed in late May, when Sheehan advised the Select Board about his plans to increase rates.

The town administrator explained larger than expected assessments from the Mass. Water Resource Authority (MWRA) has resulted FY'22 water rates climbing from \$6.47 to \$6.95 per 100 cubic feet of consumption. Meanwhile, sewer rates will jump from \$10.22 to \$11 per 100 cubic feet.

With town officials saying the typical Stoneham household consumes roughly 10,000



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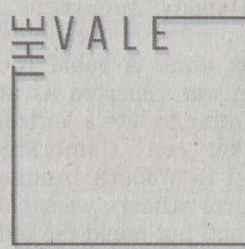
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## THE VALE

### CONSTRUCTION UPDATE MEETING

Wednesday, September 15, 2021  
7:00PM

Please join us for a Zoom community meeting to provide updates and answer questions related to construction at The Vale.

Visit [thevaleconstruction.com/meetings](https://thevaleconstruction.com/meetings) to register for the Zoom meeting.

Leggat McCall PROPERTIES



## Water From page B-1

cubic feet of water each year, the average ratepayer will reportedly pay close to \$1,800 for water and sewer services in FY'22.

Combined, Stoneham's MWRA assessment for water and sewer services spiked by 17 percent in FY'22. And with little financial cushion in water and sewer enterprise accounts to absorb that increase, the new charges are being passed directly onto consumers.

Rather than ducking for cover by chastising the MWRA for the rate hikes, the town administrator has refused to characterize the supersize assessments as unfair.

Instead, he insists that the COVID-19 pandemic and the state's response to it, which forced many to study and work from home for much of 2020 and 2021, sparked huge changes in the typical households consumption.

Specifically, Sheehan pointed out that the MWRA's billing is based upon past municipal consumption habits. And with the state's response to the COVID-19 threat resulting in travel restrictions and prolonged business closures, more Stonehamites were at home rather than at work or school over the previous year.

"The Town of Stoneham saw an increase in water consumption as people left the City of Boston and worked from home. The sewer assessment is also done based on a three-year average," the town administrator said during a Select Board meeting this spring. "We are having some communications with the MWRA about their assessment and we're hoping that some aspect of it might change. But I don't know how realistic [it is to expect a discount]."

Though Stoneham's Select Board and Finance Board has generally come to accept Sheehan's rationale for the cost hikes, the town officials insist that the Water and Sewer Review Board still plays a pivotal oversight role. If the citizen panel cannot be reconstituted, say town officials, then the duties of the committee should be handed over to the Finance Board or transferred to a new entity.

### Water and sewer rate controversies

Interest in serving on the Water & Sewer Review Board appears to have begun waning shortly after former Town Administrator Thomas Younger in the spring of 2018 instituted the last major hike in rates.

Specifically, Sheehan's predecessor appeared before frustrated Water and Sewer Board members in April of 2018 in order to advocate for raising water and sewer rates by a combined \$4.30 to offset an end-of-year deficit that had climbed to \$200,000.

Under the recommendation, which applied for the last quarter of FY'18, water rates jumped from \$5.95 to \$8.95 in order to recoup an estimated \$77,895, while sewer rates will spike from \$7.95 to \$11.15 in order to plug a projected \$117,000 shortfall.

In total, the average ratepayer was expected to pay at least \$55 more than first anticipated in their fourth quarter water and sewer bills due to the financial mismanagement.

Rates would then be dropped down to \$6.25 for water and

\$9.34 for sewer services of the entire of FY'19, when citizens would similarly have to shoulder an annual rate increase over the original charges set for FY'18.

Many Water and Sewer Review Board members balked at the staggering increase in rates, especially since some had objected to the town administrator's proposal nearly a year earlier to reduce water and sewer charges by eating into a \$2.3 million surplus in enterprise accounts.

Indeed, Younger had himself reluctantly agreed to slash rates a year earlier after facing pressure from various members of the Select Board, who were dealing with the fallout from a water and sewer department controversy that raged years earlier in 2015.

Under that previous crisis, Town Meeting voters learned in the spring of 2015 that their water rates would be hiked by nearly \$1 from \$5 to \$6 per 100 cubic feet of consumption in order to plug an estimated \$800,000 budget shortfall.

Town managers at the time blamed the increase on the planned closure of the Kraft Foods plant, which though situated in Woburn, had for decades purchased all its water wholesale from the Town of Stoneham.

However, various town officials and citizens, skeptical of those claims, later checked MWRA records and claimed that the corporate entity's water usage, though dropping, could not account entirely for the shortfall.

Former Finance Board Chair Patricia Walsh then combed through personnel records and determined Stoneham's entire DPW department, not to mention a host of other town hall employees, received at least a portion of their salary from water and sewer department revenues.

In the ensuing weeks, a firestorm erupted over the town's so-called "indirect" billing practices after other local officials, including past Water and Sewer Review Board members, combed through financial documents and found snow removal and other DPW vehicles were being paid for through the special water and sewer accounts.

Former Town Administrator David Ragucci, though acknowledging the practice should be halted, later insisted that the practice of backloading regular DPW workers' salaries and equipment purchases onto the water and sewer budget predated his tenure.

That shifting of expenditures away from the regular budget and onto the water and sewer department books reportedly started in earnest back in the mid-2000's, when the town faced a series of crippling budget crises.

Stoneham has since shifted all rank-and-file DPW workers back into the regular budget - which is largely funded through annual property taxes.

However, news of the irregular financial maneuvering, resulted in a special 2017 audit of indirect water and sewer expenditures. Ultimately, auditors, though agreeing the spending practice was questionable, stopped short of labeling the practice as illegal or prohibited.

In the wake of those findings, several town officials called for another investigation by the attorney general's office, but those critics were ultimately overruled by the Select Board.



• **MIDDLESEX EAST SPORTS WEEKLY TRIVIA:** The U.S. Open golf tournament comes back to The Country Club in Brookline next year for the fourth time. Can you name the other Massachusetts golf club that has hosted the U.S. Open four times back in the early days of the Open?

Answer appears below:

### Reading's Drew Belcher on UNH football staff

DREW BELCHER of Reading enters his first season as assistant coach with the Wildcats, coaching the UNH running backs. The Wildcats opened their season last Thursday with a 27-21 win at Stony Brook. UNH will host Towson this Saturday (6 p.m.) in its home opener.

Belcher, 25, had a standout career at the University of Maine (2014-18) as a quarterback and tight end, and played one season in the National Football League (NFL).

In 2019, Belcher broke into the NFL after graduating from UMaine by signing an undrafted free agent (UDFA) contract with the Arizona Cardinals to compete for a roster spot on the squad at tight end.

Belcher was a part of the organization's 90-man roster, took part in organized team activities (OTAs), training camp, and four preseason games before he joined the Washington Football Team later in the year as a practice squad player.

With Washington, Belcher aided the squad's starting defense by playing tight end on their scout team. Belcher was responsible for giving the defense a look at what the opposition's tight end would run for routes as well as blocking schemes and techniques. He also had to have an understanding of the opposing team's playbook as a whole in order to prepare Washington's defense for game day.

Meanwhile, at UMaine, Belcher played a pivotal role in the Black Bears' historical 2018 season, which ended in the longest postseason run in program history. During that season, UMaine captured the Colonial Athletic Conference (CAA) Championship, appeared in the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) National Semifinals, and finished the year with a No. 4 FCS national ranking. Individually, in 2018, Belcher earned All-CAA Second Team honors at tight end and received the Jack Cosgrove Leadership Award.

Belcher's career accolades at UMaine also included four Maine Scholar-Athlete awards and the 2016 Maine Football Strength and Conditioning Award.

Belcher, a captain of the 2018 squad, originally started his career with the Black Bears at quarterback before he switched positions to tight end following training camp in his redshirt junior season.

At Reading High (Class of 2014), Belcher was a two-sport Middlesex League All-Star and captain (basketball/football) for the Rockets. As a junior on the football team, Belcher led Reading to a perfect 13-0 season, which culminated in winning the EMass Division 2 Super Bowl. Belcher also was named the 2012 Massachusetts Division 2 Player of the Year to go along with Middlesex League MVP honors, and All-Scholastic honors during the same year.

Belcher went on to graduate from UMaine with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Management.

### Two new football coaches in Middlesex League

When the Middlesex League football season begins this Friday, two new coaches will be leading Lexington and Belmont.

For Lexington, Shane Wilson takes over for Mike Hill while in Belmont, Brian McCray replaces Yann Kumin.

Wilson had been a long-time assistant coach under Bill Tighe at Lexington High from 1998-2009. Wilson, a teacher in the Lexington school system, then moved on to help assist at Concord-Carlisle under then coach Mike Robichaud for eight years. When Hill left after two seasons, Wilson felt it was time to apply to be the head coach of the Minutemen.

After seven seasons at Belmont High, Kumin felt it was time to move on to do other things. The demands of the job at Belmont High was becoming a year-round endeavor. Kumin had announced at the end of last spring's Fall II season that this would be his final year.

McCray, a Chelmsford native, played high school football under Tom Caito at Chelmsford High (Class of 1995). He was a lineman who then went on to play college football at UNH and Merrimack. McCray credits Caito as an inspiration that eventually got him into coaching.

### Tewksbury Country Club looking for pro shop help

Tewksbury Country Club is currently seeking part-time help in its golf pro shop.

Duties include operating cash register, answering phones, managing the first tee, and end of day closing. Must be available afternoons and weekends approximately 12-15 hours a week typically. The job requires a detail oriented, friendly person with customer service experience.

If you are interested please contact Mike at (978) 640-0033 ext. 2 or email to: mrogers@tewksburycc.com.

### Eleventh Annual Italian Heritage Golf Classic, Sept. 24

The Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli Lodge #2183, Sons and Daughters of Italy of Wilmington and the Italian Heritage Month Committee, are proud to announce the 11th Annual Italian Heritage Golf Classic in celebration of October as Italian Heritage Month on Friday, Sept. 24, at the Merrimack Valley Golf Club in Methuen.

The committee invites you to participate in a great day of golf, food and fun. As in the past, 100% of the proceeds from the golf classic will benefit the Alzheimer's Association, Cooley's Anemia Foundation and the Italian Heritage Scholarship Fund. Over the last 10 years, the tournament has raised \$45,000!

The entry fee per golfer is \$125, which includes greens fee, golf cart, a player gift, continental breakfast, Italian sausage sub at the turn and a luncheon buffet. Golfers may register individually or in foursome; individual golfers will be placed on a team. Prizes will be given to first, second and third place teams. There will be contests on the course, a 50/50 raffle and a raffle table at the luncheon. Tickets are available for the luncheon only, at \$35.00 per person.

The tournament is a shotgun start and a scramble format. On the day of the tournament, registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and tee time is at 8:30 a.m. If you are not a golfer and would like to support our charitable golf tournament, sponsorships are available. You may sponsor a hole for \$100 or a golf cart for \$50 or provide a gift certificate that will enhance our raffle table.

For further information on participating in the tournament, sponsorships or donating a gift to the raffle, please call Tournament Chairman Kevin Cairra at (978) 657-7734.

Answer to this week's question: Myopia Hunt Club in South Hamilton (1898, 1901, 1905, 1908).

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**IFB 2021-19**

The Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) intends to contract for and extends an invitation to submit sealed bids for:

**Janitorial Services**

**A Pre-Bid meeting and site visit will be held on Thursday, September 29, 2021, at the RMLD, 230 Ash Street, Reading, MA 01867. Attendance is mandatory.** The mandatory pre-bid meeting and site visit will be held in three (3) different sessions, with a maximum of ten (10) attendees at each scheduled session. Please contact Maureen Sullivan at msullivan@rml.com or 781-942-6441 to register for a session. Sessions will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

1. Session 1: 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.  
2. Session 2: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
3. Session 3: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**RMLD** Reading Municipal Light Department  
RELIABLE POWER FOR GENERATIONS

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**IFB 2021-20**

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 56D, the Reading Municipal Light Department (or "RMLD") seeks proposals for the purchase of the following:

**Substation Spare Equipment**

Sealed proposals shall be submitted to the Reading Municipal Light Department, 230 Ash Street, Reading, MA 01867, ATTN: Purchasing Department, no later than **11:00 a.m. (local time) on Wednesday, September 22, 2021**, at which time all proposals will be publicly opened and read in the RMLD Spurr/AV room. *Late proposals will not be accepted.*

A copy of the procurement documents may be obtained by contacting Maureen Sullivan by email at msullivan@rml.com. For questions or further information, please contact Maureen Sullivan at 781-942-6441.

RMLD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive deviations and informalities, modify specifications, negotiate price and contract terms, purchase items from multiple vendors, accept any proposal, and otherwise award the contract as RMLD deems to be in its best interest, as determined by RMLD in its sole discretion. RMLD also reserves the right to purchase the equipment from a statewide contract or other procurement options authorized by G.L. c. 30B.

Proposals shall remain valid and binding for sixty (60) days, Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays excluded, following the submission deadline. No agreement shall be valid or binding on RMLD unless duly executed via contract or other writing signed by an authorized representative of the RMLD.

RMLD will make reasonable efforts to review and process proposals promptly. However, RMLD will not be liable for any delays in acting on a proposal.

**RMLD** Reading Municipal Light Department  
RELIABLE POWER FOR GENERATIONS

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**IFB 2021-20**

This IFB is being issued under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30B.

Bid documents and bid forms may be obtained via email request to Maureen Sullivan, Assistant Materials Manager, at msullivan@rml.com. For questions or further information, please contact Maureen Sullivan at 781-942-6441.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check payable to the RMLD for a sum not less than 5% of the total amount of the bid. In lieu of a check, a bid bond may be submitted in an amount not less than 5% of the total amount of the bid, unless otherwise stated. The bid bond must be from a corporate surety licensed to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, conditioned that the bidder will pay the RMLD, as liquidated damages, the amount specified in the bond unless the bidder enters into a contract in accordance with his bid. If the bidder fails to enter into the contract or furnish any required bonds, insurance documents, or other required documents within 10 days from the date on which he is notified that the bid has been accepted, the amount of the check or bid bond shall be forfeited to the RMLD.

The RMLD reserves the right to reject any and all bids, including and without limitation the right to reject any or all non-responsive, unbalanced or conditional bids, and to reject any bid if the RMLD believes that it would not be in the best interest of the RMLD to make the award to that bidder. RMLD also reserves the right to waive any minor informalities not involving price, time or changes to the work.

No agreement shall be valid or binding unless duly executed via contract or other writing signed by an authorized representative of the RMLD.

RMLD will make reasonable efforts to review and process bids promptly. However, RMLD will not be liable for any delays in acting on a bid.





**LORD OF THE TEN RINGS** - Simu Liu (above) in a scene from "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings." After viewing the latest Marvel Studio film you'll leave the theater satisfied, if maybe a bit confused at parts. (Marvel Studios via AP)

## Movie Reviews & Box Office News

### 'Shang-Chi' adds a thrilling hero to Marvel universe

By MARK KENNEDY  
AP Entertainment Writer

If the Marvel Cinematic Universe has taught us anything it's that heroes arise from unexpected places. For their 25th film entry, that place is valet parking.

The titular hero of "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings" is laying low living on tips as a hotel parking attendant in present-day San Francisco when we meet him as an adult. He doesn't even fly to work; he takes the bus.

But by the time the film is over, he's a glorious addition to the Marvel universe, a tried and dependable warrior whose valor has been tested in more than one dimension and joined by a predominantly Asian cast. And forget about the bus — now he rides dragons.

Simu Liu plays our hero with Spider-Man's aw-shucks sweetness but a lethality when it comes to his fists. It turns out that Shang-Chi has run away from his domineering father, who's a total bummer: He's over 1,000 years old, obsessed with controlling the universe and in possession of 10 magical rings that give him superhuman powers.

Shang-Chi has fled rather than become the cold-hearted assassin his dad wants and that's why he's parking cars. That is, until dad (Tony Leung) wants the family back for a mission to rescue his dead wife, testing the bounds of reality and credibility and building into a Shakespearean show-down.

"Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings" might have ridden this grim coming-of-age backstory tale like something from DC, but that's not what Marvel does best and it finds its lightness in Awkwafina and later by leaning on the Disney brand for some mind-blowing computer creatures and a surreal realm.

Awkwafina plays Shang-Chi's platonic friend Katy as a comic tether to reality, often commenting on the madness. "I'm pretty confused right now," she'll say after a stone dragon vomits a map in water (seriously). Later, as she and our hero hear a terrible sound, she says: "You're going toward that noise?" She mocks our hero's Angli-

cized name change to "Shaun" and what she does with the Eagles' "Hotel California" is glorious.

Directed by Destin Daniel Cretton, the film is somewhat overstuffed and lumpy in parts and the last surreal third is poorly knitted into the rest of the narrative, but it's all impossible to predict and you'll leave the theater satisfied, if maybe a bit confused at parts.

It sometimes feels like the filmmakers are throwing everything they have at the screen: An adorable chicken-pig with no face called Morris, a hitman with a machete for an arm, the return of Trevor Slattery to the Marvel universe, a plot detour to an underground fight ring, forests that move thrillingly and two awesome fight scenes on a skyscraper's scaffolding and a city bus.

The screenplay — by Cretton, David Callaham and Andrew Lanham — knows exactly when the viewer is tiring and adds an ounce of lunacy, whether it's a guy live-blogging the fight on the bus or a flight attendant being surreal. There are nods to "Avatar" and martial arts tangles worthy of "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," even sucking in one of that film's stars, Michelle Yeoh. But the critical role of the father, Xu Wenwu, is murky, mercurial and unsatisfying.

Beneath the beauty and the violence is a story about the ties between siblings, fatherly expectations, the modern world's demands versus traditions and our own legacies. Plus, did we mention, there's an adorable chicken-pig with no face called Morris?

"Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings," a Marvel Studios release, is rated PG-13 for sequences of violence and action, and language. It hits theaters Friday with a running time of 172 minutes. Three stars out of four.

MPAA Definition of PG-13: Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Mark Kennedy is at <http://twitter.com/KennedyTwits>

## HomeNewsHere RECIPE



**LET THE GAME FOOD BEGIN** - Serve this delicious skillet dinner made using beef, Original Bisquick® mix and cheese mixed with smoke-flavored barbecue sauce - ready in 35 minutes.

### STEPS

1. Heat oven to 450°F. Spray 12 regular-size muffin cups with cooking spray.

2. In 10-inch nonstick skillet, cook beef and onion over medium-high heat 5 to 7 minutes, stirring occasionally, until thoroughly cooked; drain. Stir in barbecue sauce; cook until mixture just begins to bubble.

3. In medium bowl, stir Bisquick mix, 1/2 cup of the cheese and the milk until soft dough forms. Spoon

about 2 tablespoons dough into each muffin cup. Press dough in bottom and up sides of each cup. Spoon 2 tablespoons beef mixture into each cup.

4. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until top edges of cups are golden brown. Sprinkle each with remaining cheese. Let stand 5 minutes; remove from pan.

### EXPERT TIPS

To measure Bisquick mix, spoon into dry-ingredient

### Ingredients

- 1 lb lean (at least 80%) ground beef
- 1/4 cup finely chopped onion
- 1 cup hickory smoke-flavored barbecue sauce
- 2 1/4 cups Original Bisquick™ mix
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (4 oz.)
- 2/3 cup milk

ent measuring cup, and level with a straight-edged knife or spatula. Do not pack or tap Bisquick mix into cup.

Use one container (18 oz) refrigerated barbecue sauce with shredded beef, pork or chicken in place of the ground beef, onion and barbecue sauce. Heat as directed on package until hot before filling dough-lined cups.

## • Real Estate Transfers •

### BURLINGTON

15 Dolores Dr was sold to Sunshine RT and Murray, Daniel E by Dunbar Thomas R Est and Nesti, Elizabeth for \$489,900 on 08/17/21

94 Locust St was sold to Cole, Deborah and Sperandio, Jessica by Ho, Luan T and Nguyen, Nguyet T for \$825,000 on 08/20/21

### NORTH READING

175 Central St was sold to Goldberg, Jane G and Goldberg, Molly M by Berry, David W and Berry, Jennifer M for \$760,000 on 08/16/21

3 Greenbriar Dr #203 was sold to Healey, James B and Healey, Lisa F by Vinci, John M for \$302,000 on 08/18/21

16 Kristyn Ln was sold to Tatro, Vera and Tatro, Christopher by Welch, Stephen J and Welch, Kathleen G for \$850,000 on 08/16/21

28 Main St #4 was sold to Kesterson, Kevin A by Nguyen, Tri D for \$230,000

on 08/20/21

86 Marblehead St was sold to Zonouz, Kourosh by Mcleavey, Christopher and Russo, Lauren for \$785,000 on 08/18/21

39 Southwick Rd was sold to David E by Hare, Danielle M for \$985,000 on 08/20/21

### READING

34 Avon St was sold to Francois, Jean G and Jean-Vernet, Rose B by Medeiros, Mark and Medeiros, Danica for \$545,000 on 08/16/21

435 Franklin St was sold to Voloh, Maria and Tataru, Ioana by Segalla, Mark J and Segalla, Julie A for \$735,000 on 08/16/21

1003 Gazebo Cir #1003 was sold to Wang, Peibei and Tahiraj, Edmond by Yaras, Fahri and Yaras, Ferda for \$540,000 on 08/16/21

36 Johnson Woods Dr #36 was sold to Manning, Katherine L and Manning, Harley

Transfers TO B-4

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## • Real Estate Transfers •

### Transfers FROM A-10

by Johnson Woods Realty for \$1,095,000 on 08/20/21

16 Kelch Rd was sold to Adiverekar, Chetan and Joshi, Sonal by Hughes, Elizabeth for \$1,150,000 on 08/16/21

1261 Main St was sold to Breyne, Koen and Callaert, Nathalie by Sweet, Daniel A and Sweet, Sarah L for \$770,000 on 08/20/21

14 Nichols Rd was sold to Gorski, Jonathan by Meserve, Nichola C and Bean, Michael J for \$776,500 on 08/19/21

227 Pleasant St #227 was sold to Duncan, Robert T and Brickman, Samantha J by Oconnell LT and Oconnell, Ronald V for \$425,000 on 08/19/21

24 Plymouth Rd was sold to Carlson, David and Carlson, Hannah by Caligan, Patrick M and Caligan, Brooke Z for \$745,000 on 08/19/21

460 Summer Ave was sold to Burns, Nolan and Koszka, Kathryn by Duffy Eileen M Est and Borden, Melissa A for \$637,000 on 08/18/21

16 Taylor Dr #3012 was sold to Leblanc, Anne and Leblanc, William by 16 Taylor Drive RT and Moore, Edward T or \$784,000 on 08/17/21

11 Wilson St was sold to McDonald, Jacob S by Schwarz, Julie for \$650,000 on 08/20/21

84 Woburn St was sold to Green, Charlotte and Berry, Christopher by Giguere, Michael for \$855,000 on 08/20/21

#### STONEHAM

25 Bow St #25 was sold to Nogales, Guilherme and Nogales, Karline by Landry, William and Landry, Sujata for \$550,000 on 08/20/21

19 Isabella St was sold to Bashir, Hassan H and Efaw-Bashir, Kayla J by Vaughan, Linda for \$755,000 on 08/20/21

426 Main St #111 was sold to Gnanapradeepan, Keerthana by Siciliano, Michael J for \$400,000 on 08/19/21

4 Martin Louis Way was sold to Rosman, David A and Rosman, Samantha by Nath, Anuj and Nath, Monica for \$1,240,000 on 08/17/21

65 Oak St was sold to Zakas, Philip M and Fleischer, Lauren by Newell Family Hldg T and Newell, Robert D for \$775,000 on 08/16/21

15 S Marble St was sold to Weldon, Charles and Weldon, Michelle L by Kelly, John W and Moyer-Kelly, Megan for \$730,000 on 08/16/21

450-450A William St was sold to Laverty,

Linnea and Pirkey, James R by Weymouth, Cynthia M for \$800,000 on 08/18/21

#### TEWKSBURY

18 Amos St was sold to Hanley, Diane M and Hanley, Walter J by Cavalaro-Santoni, Raquel and Santoni, Sergio for \$745,000 on 08/18/21

98 Charme Rd was sold to Chen, Xiaohui by Haley, Linda J for \$560,000 on 08/20/21

65 Merrimack Meadows Ln #65 was sold to Wen, Ming by Swallow, David G for \$385,000 on 08/19/21

7 Park Ave was sold to Lepore, Rachel E and Lepore, Christopher P by Audette, Alison L for \$400,000 on 08/18/21

21 Pinta Dr was sold to Alderson, Henry and Alderson, Elizabeth by Corbin FT and Corbin, Victor L for \$617,500 on 08/19/21

31 Pinta Dr was sold to Vanella IRT and Vanella, Joseph by Leduc FT and Leduc, Leo E for \$725,000 on 08/16/21

55 Sarina Way #55 was sold to Shrestha, Bipul C and Shakra, Rosina by Levy, Paul for \$640,000 on 08/18/21

80 Sawyers Ln was sold to Chase, David and Chase, Beth by Keating, John and Nelson, Jennifer for \$900,000 on 08/16/21

90 Summer St was sold to Graham, Dennis W and Graham, Kara by Graham FT and Graham, Dennis W for \$171,062 on 08/17/21

90 Wamesit Rd was sold to Federico, Casandra L and Federico, Dominic J by Dasilva, Jose C and Dasilva, Stella M for \$635,000 on 08/20/21

#### WAKEFIELD

71 Eunice Cir was sold to Holl, Edward and Holl, Kathleen by Macfarl, Barry A and Macfarl, Pamela A for \$622,500 on 08/19/21

48 Green St was sold to Gilzinger, Matthew T and Lesmerises-Cricco, M A by Keddy, Christopher P and Keddy, Jennifer L for \$652,000 on 08/16/21

24 Gumwood Ln was sold to Keddy, Christopher P and Keddy, Jennifer L by Kennedy, Christine C for \$955,000 on 08/18/21

20 Humphrey St was sold to Johnson, John-Dusty B and Johnson, Emilee L by Monroe, Brendan J and Steward, Jessica L for \$560,000 on 08/17/21

310 Lowell St was sold to Cote, Matthew J and Cote, Malina F by Pollard, Wayne and Pollard, Julia R for \$701,017 on 08/16/21

66 Main St was sold to Concessi, Leigh A and Buccellato, Nicholas O by Sampson, Kristina for \$721,000 on 08/18/21

44 Melvin St was sold to Freeman, Kyle and Entwistle, Grace by Schneller, Michael G and Schneller, Michele S for \$610,000 on

08/17/21

2 Ossipee Ln was sold to Wibisono, Benedict and Hinting, Nina by Heritage Builders Inc for \$1,499,000 on 08/19/21

5 Park Ave was sold to Larose, Ian A by Temple Emmanuel for \$656,000 on 08/17/21

64 Preston St was sold to Griffin, Michael S and Griffin, Kimberly L by Bisacre Robert C Jr Est and Bisacre, Michael D for \$569,000 on 08/20/21

68 Preston St #6B was sold to Hartford, Meghan E and Hartford, Benjamin W by Cresta Generoso Est and Cresta, Rita for \$306,500 on 08/20/21

60 Winship Dr was sold to Al-Beirouty, Rania by Al-Beirouty, Ehab K for \$230,000 on 08/16/21

26 Woodcrest Dr was sold to Merry, Timothy and Merry, Alexis by Noble RT and Fowler, Marilyn L for \$541,500 on 08/18/21

#### WILMINGTON

25 Ashwood Ave was sold to Giunta, Salvatore J and Giunta, Georgia by Fewtrell, Stephen A and Fewtrell, Jeanne M for \$835,100 on 08/19/21

34 Ballardvale St was sold to Farias, Gildazio A by Cronin, Douglas G and Cronin, Melinda A for \$775,000 on 08/16/21

19 Cedarcrest Rd was sold to Canh-Huynh, Alan by Labello, Nicholas P for \$530,000 on 08/18/21

30 Crescent St was sold to 510 Properties LLC by Cotter-Chakoian, Donna M for \$437,000 on 08/20/21

6 Glenview Rd was sold to Ford, Amanda and Ford, Brian J by Masskey Development Corp for \$830,000 on 08/20/21

22 Hensley Way #26 was sold to Anderson, Beth B by Spruce Farm LLC for \$609,900 on 08/20/21

85 Mink Run Rd was sold to Ceruolo, Daryl J and Ceruolo, Julia by BMC Builders LLC for \$867,500 on 08/16/21

1 Olson St #3 was sold to Jaggi, Nikita and Krishnan, Deepak by Kitty K Siu LT and Siu, Daniel K for \$605,000 on 08/20/21

9 Presidential Dr was sold to Gaudet, Charles and Gaudet, Laura by Damore, Peter T for \$700,000 on 08/20/21

#### WINCHESTER

24 Chesterford Rd was sold to Decaneas, William M and Decaneas, Rebecca L by Taylor, Jon and Taylor, Jeri for \$1,225,000 on 08/16/21

24 Chesterford Rd was sold to Decaneas, William M and Decaneas, Rebecca L by Taylor, Jon and Taylor, Jeri for \$1,225,000 on 08/16/21

91 Church St was sold to Varriale, Leo

and Antonino, Ilia by Olson, George E and Olson, Chantal A for \$1,800,000 on 08/17/21

23 George Rd #23 was sold to Chow, Kevin and Wong, Yvonne by Zwick, Scott B and Zwick, Adriana G for \$470,000 on 08/18/21

101 Highland Ave was sold to Buckley, Brian G by Coulton, Julie for \$1,300,000 on 08/19/21

53 Wildwood St was sold to Statires, Andrew C and Statires, Melissa V by Perenick Margaret A Est and Perenick, Kimberley for \$1,375,000 on 08/19/21

#### WOBURN

14 Fowle St was sold to Roth, Kaylin by Joannes, Amylee O and Obrien, Gregory for \$480,000 on 08/19/21

6 Greenwood Ave was sold to Pascombe, Kerlyne by Desmaris, Dwayne J and McGondel, Katherine for \$635,000 on 08/17/21

17 Lake Ave was sold to Serieka, Caroline A by Vidinha, Pedro for \$492,500 on 08/17/21

80 N Warren St #28 was sold to McDonald, Theron by Bradford Arms RT and McLaughlin, Robert E for \$185,000 on 08/18/21

10 Sachem Rd was sold to Cherenokalskaya, Elena and Lazarev, Alexander by Cialdea Construction for \$1,349,000 on 08/16/21

295 Salem St #26 was sold to Bourin, Clotilde by Marjorie A Fedele IRT and Dainis, Jeanne F for \$483,000 on 08/16/21

27 Thistle Rd was sold to Librach, Gilah and Nagar, Erez by McLaughlin RT and McLaughlin, Gary for \$880,000 on 08/20/21

#### LYNNFIELD

3 Elliot Rd was sold to 3 Sleepy Elliot LLC by Papagni, Joseph D for \$785,000 on 08/17/21

32 Heritage Ln was sold to Mackor, Thomas D and Miller, Kathryn M by 32 Heritage Lane IRT and Rokenetetz, Peter M for \$1,100,000 on 08/17/21

7 Liberty Ln was sold to Leone, Anthony R and Leone, Sarah B by Noll, Lisa A and Noll, Richard for \$825,000 on 08/16/21

26 Pinewood Rd was sold to Silva, Vinicius by Robey, Keith E for \$525,000 on 08/16/21

8 Pyburn Rd was sold to Kaur, Manjit and Pabla, Yadwinder S by Nolan, Brian J and Nolan, Kelly J for \$720,000 on 08/16/21

981 Summer St was sold to 981 Summer Street LLC by Poutre, Jennifer and Poutre, Tyler A for \$570,000 on 08/18/21

6 Thwing Rd was sold to Graffeo, Anthony M and Graffeo, Tyler B by Jodice, Robert C and Jodice, Susanne E for \$850,000 on 08/19/21

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# Wilmington supports O'Connell's bid as she returns to board

JUDY FROM PAGE 1

She recently was endorsed by Selectman Kevin Cairra. In a quote from that endorsement, he calls her "a dedicated, hard-working individual who cares deeply for our community. She has and will continue to advocate in the best interest of Wilmington."

He also commended her experiences in public and private sectors, her intellect and values, her listening skills, and her abilities in both collaborating with town officials and engaging residents in local affairs.

In a statement from her Facebook page:

"One more sincere thank you to everyone who supported my candidacy for the Wilmington Board of Selectmen. We were successful in winning thanks to everyone who took the time to come out and vote.

I appreciate all of you and I'm excited to get to work!"

Mark Nelson, as outlined in his candidacy announcement on Facebook, has been a resident of Wilmington for 50 years, is a part of Wilmington High School's graduating class of 1973, has raised children in Wilmington, is self-employed and semi-retired.

He served on the Master Plan Advisory Committee and the Transportation Sub Committee, and received 1,100 votes for Redevelopment Authority in his first election in 1996. During his time as an active participant in local government, Nelson has spoken and taken action on environmental issues such as oil and water supply.

The total percentage of voters ended up being 4.12 percent of the registered 17,845 voters of Wilmington, which means that 735 votes were counted.



The Town of Wilmington spoke, and a hearty con-

gratulations is sent to Selectwoman O'Connell.

▲ Voters in precincts 5 & 6 head into Town Hall to cast their votes in the special Election for Selectman.

(photo: BruceHilliard.com)



WHS is back! The students are celebrating, including Anastasiia and her classmates! (photo: BruceHilliard.com)

## Wilmington Farmers Market looking for more community engagement

By CASSIA BURNS  
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — For the past 11 years, the Wilmington Farmers Market has provided the town residents with access to dedicated vendors selling a variety of goods, including fruits, vegetables, fish, breads, sweets, candles, accessories, and wine.

Although the market's 10th anniversary season was relegated to "produce and seafood drive-thru" events to comply with COVID-19 guidelines, the market's board, volunteers, and vendors have worked tirelessly to restore the market to its pre-pandemic state throughout the 2021 season.

As the Wilmington Far-

mers Market enters the second half of their market season, they are looking to appeal to their local community for continued help in this rebuilding effort.

In order to encourage community engagement, the market's board of directors provided some suggested actions residents can take, with varying levels of involvement. Some of the more simple, baseline measures include interacting with and sharing the market's social media posts, attending the market, and purchasing from vendors each week.

Increased levels of participation include sending referrals for vendors, community groups, volunteers, and entertainers, as well as sharing the oppor-

tunity of being a partner of the market through financial support with local employers.

To learn more about the Wilmington Farmers Market, visit their website: [www.wilmingtonfarmersmarket.com](http://www.wilmingtonfarmersmarket.com) for more information, or go to their social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram. To get more involved with the market, contact [wilmingtonfarmersmarket1@gmail.com](mailto:wilmingtonfarmersmarket1@gmail.com) with ideas or referrals.

The Wilmington Farmers Market will take place on Swain Green, 140 Middlesex Ave. in Wilmington, on Sundays from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. for the remainder of the season. The final day of this year's season will be on Oct. 3, 2021.

## New Boston Street Bridge project closer to starting

BRIDGE FROM PAGE 1

week to sanction a series of land takings along and around New Boston Street.

During a special meeting in City Hall on Wednesday, the aldermen quickly and without rancor added their signatures of approval to the various permanent and temporary easement right agreements negotiated between City Hall officials and North Woburn landlords over the past year.

"You've worked on this hard to get this bridge back up. It's the key to North Woburn right now. With all the activity going on over there, it will be a godsend to get it back up and we're now a couple signatures away from getting that done," said Ward 2 Alderman Richard Gately, who credited various city officials for their commitment to the project.

As Mayor Scott Galvin and City Solicitor Ellen Callahan-Doucette explained, all of the land takings need to be recorded by last Friday in order for the city to meet a federal deadline for securing the necessary permissions. Had the council not OKed the final drafts of the land takings, the \$25 million New Boston Street bridge project could have been further delayed or in extreme circumstances, cancelled altogether.

Work on the bridge project, which earlier this year was scheduled to begin this summer, is now expected to begin next spring.

"We have to be on record by Friday or we risk loos-

ing out on the funding. That's how many iterations of [these easement deals] we've gone through that we're now up against that deadline," said City Solicitor Ellen Callahan-Doucette, who presented a handful of minor changes to the deals before the council vote on Wednesday night.

"[All of these final versions] involve the same parcels and the same square footage that we're taking for the road widening, the installation of the bridge, guardrails, and drainage," added the city lawyer.

According to Galvin and City Engineer Jay Corey, the city first began seriously negotiating the legal pacts nearly 11 months ago, when state officials, eyeing a possible groundbreaking on the project this summer, indicated they were ready to go out to bid for the undertaking.

In a memo to the council early last month, the mayor explained the city is looking to secure temporary land use rights so that contractors can stage equipment and materials and provide clear access to the work site. For those temporary easements, the city's rights would expire after a five-year period.

At least one of the permanent easements will result in the loss of a handful of parking spaces for a private landowner at 317 New Boston St., but as city officials point out, the abutter will also benefit from the bridge construction by obtaining direct access to the new right-of-

way. For all of the arrangements, land owners will retain the right to use the easements, so long as that "use does not interfere with or impair the city's rights in said permanent easements."

With local officials for decades now for the bridge restoration, Corey has been trying to convince the state to fund the New Boston Street connection between East and North Woburn since 2004 — when the estimated pricetag for the undertaking pegged at \$4.5 million.

With construction materials and costs escalating since the arrival of COVID-19, the total budget for the New Boston Street Bridge work climbed over nearly \$1.5 million over the past few years.

According to Corey, with the easements representing the last obstacle to moving ahead with the work, he expects Mass. Department of Transportation (MassDOT) officials to go out to bid for the project later this month.

The original New Boston Street Bridge, which connected an industrial area in North Woburn to East Woburn by Commerce Way, was destroyed in a fire nearly a half-century ago.

The new bridge is expected to divert as many as 17,000 vehicles per day away from smaller residential side streets in North Woburn and neighborhoods in nearby Wilmington that lead to the industrial district.



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## Antique fire apparatus show returns

MAFAA FROM PAGE 1

The purpose of this organization is to promote and preserve antique motorized fire apparatus.

Last year's event was canceled due to the ongoing pandemic, and replaced with a short "drive by" style ride through the town of Wilmington. Organizers are pleased that this year's event promises to be better than ever.

"We are hoping for a good turnout," said MAFAA Board of Directors member James McGonagle. "This will be the biggest event of this kind in our New England area since COVID started, and we are expecting people from all around New England."

This family fun event starts with the traditional fire apparatus parade. Event planners are expecting a turnout of 75 to 100 antique fire apparatus to participate in the parade.

Lineup for the parade is at 9 a.m., and the parade procession will start promptly at 10 a.m.

This year's parade route is different from past

events. Starting point for the parade is Shawshen Street. Then the parade will proceed to Rt. 129 to Rt. 38 to Rt. 62, then onto Federal Street to Concord Street, ending at the Shriners Auditorium, located at 99 Fordham Road in Wilmington.

Once at the Shriners Auditorium, fire apparatus will be parked for display, and voted on for several different categories. Spectators are invited to walk around to see the apparatus up close and speak to the members of the organization. There will be many photo opportunities with the fire trucks and several Shriners clowns will also be on hand for meet and greet photo opps with the kids.

MAFAA members are also excited to announce the return of the Antique Handtub Competition. Handtubs are the great-granddaddies of fire apparatus, and were commonplace in fire departments before the days of motorized fire apparatus.

Handtubs required a team of men to pump the

water by hand to extinguish the fire. The job of running a handtub can be much more difficult than it sounds as everyone on the handtub team must work in unison to get the proper water flow needed to extinguish a fire.

The Handtub Competition, which is sanctioned by the National Handtub League, is a fun event for all, and spectator participation is greatly encouraged to make this event successful.

The winners of the competition are determined by which handtub team can generate enough water to hit a target that is 200 feet away in the fastest time. Those interested in participating in this competition can sign up on site at the event before the start time of noon. Prizes will be awarded to the winning teams.

The annual flea market will also be set up onsite from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., offering vintage and new fire collectables, clothing, toys and more from vendors from all around New England.

Don't forget to bring your appetite as a good selection of food and refreshments will also be on hand for sale.

Because this is a mostly outdoor event, there are no mask restrictions in place as of the printing of this article. Although the flea market area is indoors, the wall of garage sized doors that line the back of the Shriners auditorium will all be open to allow for good air flow in the area, and visitors are encouraged to socially distance.

Admission to the parade, flea market and fire apparatus display are free.

All proceeds for the day's event will be donated to the Shriners Transportation Fund. This fund assures no cost to patients or their families that require medical flights to Shriners Hospitals for treatment.

The MAFAA welcomes anyone with an interest in the history of fire service to join their mission. For information about this organization, or to become a member, visit [www.massmafaa.com](http://www.massmafaa.com).